

No. _____



SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

1924-1925

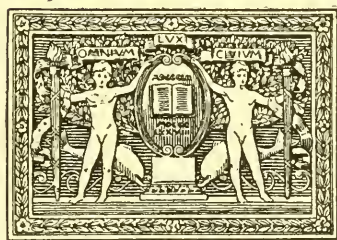


BOSTON
PUBLISHED BY THE TRUSTEES
1925



CENTRAL LIBRARY: THE COURT AT NIGHT.

SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TRUSTEES
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PUBLIC LIBRARY
OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON
1924-1925



BOSTON
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1925

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON: PRINTING DEPARTMENT.
MP5: 7,8,25: 2500.

TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY
ON FEBRUARY 1, 1925.

LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN, *President.*

Term expires April 30, 1929.

WILLIAM A. GASTON.

Term expires April 30, 1925.

ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY.

Term expires April 30, 1927.

MICHAEL J. MURRAY.

Term expires April 30, 1926.

GUY W. CURRIER.

Term expires April 30, 1928.

DIRECTOR.

CHARLES F. D. BELDEN.

ORGANIZATION OF THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT.

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, organized in 1852, are now incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 114, of the Acts of 1878, as amended. The Board for 1852 was a preliminary organization; that for 1853 made its first annual report. At first the Board consisted of one alderman and one common-councilman and five citizens at large, until 1867, when a revised ordinance made it consist of one alderman, two common-councilmen and six citizens at large, two of whom retired, unless re-elected, each year, while the members from the City Council were elected yearly. In 1878 the organization of the Board was changed to include one alderman, one councilman, and five citizens at large, as before 1867; and in 1885, by the provisions of the amended city charter, the representation of the City Government upon the Board by an alderman and a councilman was abolished, leaving the Board as at present, consisting of five citizens at large, appointed by the Mayor, for five-year terms, the term of one member expiring each year. The following citizens at large have been members of the Board since its organization in 1852:

ABBOTT, SAMUEL APPLETON BROWNE, A.M., 1879-95.

APPLETON, THOMAS GOLD, A.M., 1852-56.

BENTON, JOSIAH HENRY, LL.D., 1894-1917.

BIGELOW, JOHN PRESCOTT, A.M., 1852-68.

BOWDITCH, HENRY INGERSOLL, M.D., 1865-67.

BOWDITCH, HENRY PICKERING, M.D., 1894-1902.

BOYLE, THOMAS FRANCIS, 1902-12.

BRAMAN, JARVIS DWIGHT, 1869-72.

BRETT, JOHN ANDREW, LL.B., 1912-16.

CARR, SAMUEL, 1895-96, 1908-22.

CHASE, GEORGE BIGELOW, A.M., 1876-85.

CLARKE, JAMES FREEMAN, D.D., 1879-88.

COAKLEY, DANIEL HENRY, 1917-19.

CONNOLLY, ARTHUR THEODORE, 1916-

CURRIER, GUY WILBUR, 1922-

CURTIS, DANIEL SARGENT, A.M., 1873-75.

DE NORMANDIE, JAMES, D.D., 1895-1908.

DWIGHT, THOMAS, M.D., 1899-1908.

EVERETT, EDWARD, LL.D., 1852-64.

FROTHINGHAM, RICHARD, LL.D., 1875-79.

GASTON, WILLIAM ALEXANDER, LL.B., 1923-

GREEN, SAMUEL ABBOTT, M.D., 1868-78.

GREENOUGH, WILLIAM WHITWELL, 1856-88.

HAYNES, HENRY WILLIAMSON, A.M., 1880-94.

HILLIARD, GEORGE STILLMAN, LL.D., 1872-75; 76-77.

KENNEY, WILLIAM FRANCIS, A.M., 1908-21.

KIRSTEIN, LOUIS EDWARD, 1919-

LEWIS, WESTON, 1868-79.

LEWIS, WINSLOW, M.D., 1867.

LINCOLN, SOLOMON, A.M., 1897-1907.
 MANN, ALEXANDER, D.D., 1908-23.
 MORTON, ELLIS WESLEY, 1870-73.
 MURRAY, MICHAEL JOSEPH, LL.B., 1921-
 PIERCE, PHINEAS, 1888-94.
 PRINCE, FREDERICK OCTAVIUS, A.M., 1888-99.
 PUTNAM, GEORGE, D.D., 1868-77.
 RICHARDS, WILLIAM REUBEN, A.M., 1889-95.
 SHURTLEFF, NATHANIEL BRADSTREET, LL.D., 1852-68.
 THOMAS, BENJAMIN, FRANKLIN, LL.D., 1877-78.
 TICKNOR, GEORGE, LL.D., 1852-66.
 WALKER, FRANCIS AMASA, LL.D., 1896.
 WHIPPLE, EDWIN PERCY, A.M., 1867-70.
 WHITMORE, WILLIAM HENRY, A.M., 1885-88.
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., 1867-68.

The HON. EDWARD EVERETT was President of the Board from 1852 to 1864; GEORGE TICKNOR, in 1865; WILLIAM W. GREENOUGH, from 1866 to April, 1888; PROF. HENRY W. HAYNES, from May 7, 1888, to May 12, 1888; SAMUEL A. B. ABBOTT, May 12, 1888, to April 30, 1895; HON. F. O. PRINCE, October 8, 1895, to May 8, 1899; SOLOMON LINCOLN, May 12, 1899, to October 15, 1907; REV. JAMES DE NORMANDIE, January 31, 1908, to May 8, 1908; JOSIAH H. BENTON, May 8, 1908, to February 6, 1917; WILLIAM F. KENNEY, February 13, 1917, to May 7, 1920; REV. ALEXANDER MANN, May 7, 1920, to January 22, 1923; MSGR. ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY, April 13, 1923, to June 13, 1924; LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN, since June 13, 1924.

LIBRARIANS.

(From 1858 to 1877, the chief executive officer was called Superintendent; since 1923, Director.)

CAPEN, EDWARD, *Librarian*, May 13, 1852 - December 16, 1874.
 JEWETT, CHARLES C., *Superintendent*, 1858 - January 9, 1868.
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., *Superintendent*, February 25, 1868 - September 30, 1877.
 GREEN, SAMUEL A., M.D., *Trustee, Acting Librarian*, October 1, 1877 - September 30, 1878.
 CHAMBERLAIN, MELLEN, LL.D., *Librarian*, October 1, 1878 - September 30, 1890.
 DWIGHT, THEODORE F., *Librarian*, April 13, 1892 - April 30, 1894.
 PUTNAM, HERBERT, LL.D., *Librarian*, February 11, 1895 - April 30, 1899.
 WHITNEY, JAMES L., A.M., *Acting Librarian*, March 31, 1899 - December 21, 1899; *Librarian*, December 22, 1899 - January 31, 1903.
 WADLIN, HORACE G., LITT.D., *Librarian*, February 1, 1903 - March 15, 1917; *Acting Librarian*, March 15, 1917 - June 15, 1917.
 BELDEN, CHARLES F. D., LL.B., *Director*, since March 15, 1917.

LIBRARY SYSTEM, FEBRUARY 1, 1925.

DEPARTMENTS.	[[OPENED.
†Central Library, Copley Square	May 2, 1854
†East Boston Branch, 276-282 Meridian St.	Jan. 28, 1871
§South Boston Branch, 372 Broadway	May 1, 1872
||Fellowes Athenaeum Branch, 46 Millmont St.	July 16, 1873
†Charlestown Branch, Monument Square	Jan. 5, 1874
†Brighton Branch, Academy Hill Road	Jan. 5, 1874
‡Dorchester Branch, Arcadia, cor. Adams St.	Jan. 25, 1875
‡Lower Mills Branch, Washington, cor. Richmond St.	*June 7, 1875
‡South End Branch, Shawmut Ave. and West Brookline St.	Aug., 1877
†Jamaica Plain Branch, Sedgwick, cor. South St.	Sept., 1877
‡Roslindale Branch, Washington, cor. Ashland St.	*Dec. 3, 1878
†West Roxbury Branch, Centre, near Mt. Vernon St.	*Jan. 6, 1880
§Mattapan Branch, 7 Babson St.	*Dec. 27, 1881
†North End Branch, 3a North Bennet St.	*Oct., 1882
§Neponset Branch, 362 Neponset Ave.	*Jan. 1, 1883
§Mt. Bowdoin Branch, Washington, cor. Eldon St.	*Nov. 1, 1886
§Allston Branch, 138 Brighton Ave.	*Mar. 11, 1889
‡Codman Square Branch, Washington, cor. Norfolk St.	*Nov. 12, 1890
‡Mt. Pleasant Branch, Vine, cor. Dudley St.	*Apr. 29, 1892
‡Tyler Street Branch, Tyler, cor. Oak St.	*Jan. 16, 1896
†West End Branch, Cambridge, cor. Lynde St.	Feb. 1, 1896
‡Uphams Corner Branch, Columbia Rd., cor. Bird St.	*Mar. 16, 1896
§Warren Street Branch, 392 Warren St.	*May 1, 1896
§Roxbury Crossing Branch, 208 Ruggles St.	*Jan. 18, 1897
§Boylston Station Branch, The Lamartine, Depot Square	*Nov. 1, 1897
§Orient Heights Branch, 1030 Bennington St.	*June 25, 1901
‡City Point Branch, Municipal Bldg., Broadway	*July 18, 1906
§Parker Hill Branch, 1518 Tremont St.	*July 15, 1907
†Hyde Park Branch, Harvard Ave., cor. Winthrop St.	Jan. 1, 1912
†Faneuil Branch, 100 Brooks St.	*Mar. 4, 1914
§Andrew Square Branch, 396 Dorchester St.	*Mar. 5, 1914
§Jeffries Point Branch, 195 Webster St.	*Oct. 15, 1921

[[In the case of the Central Library and some of the branches the opening was in a different location from that now occupied. * As a delivery station. † In building owned by City, and exclusively devoted to library uses. ‡ In City building, in part devoted to other municipal uses. § Occupies rented rooms. || The lessee of the Fellowes Athenaeum, a private library association.

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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

Central Library: The Court at Night	Frontispiece
Map of the Library System	At the end

TO HIS HONOR JAMES M. CURLEY,
Mayor of the City of Boston.

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston present the following reports of its condition and affairs for the year ending January 31, 1925, being the seventy-third annual report.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

Mr. Louis E. Kirstein, whose term as a Trustee expired on April 30, 1924, was re-appointed for a term ending April 30, 1929. The Board organized at the annual meeting on June 13, 1924, by the election of Mr. Louis E. Kirstein as President, Judge Michael J. Murray, Vice-President, and Miss Della Jean Deery, Clerk.

RECEIPTS OF THE LIBRARY.

The receipts which may be expended by the Trustees for the maintenance of the Library consist of the annual appropriation by the Mayor and City Council, and the income from Trust Funds given to the institution and invested by the City Treasurer. During the past year these receipts were:

Annual appropriation	\$828,567.00
Special appropriation (Annex balance)	15,803.50
Income from Trust Funds	24,852.54
Unexpended balance of Trust Funds income of previous year	46,615.09
	<hr/>
	\$915,838.13

Receipts which are accounted for and paid into the City Treasury for general municipal purposes, during the past year have been as follows:

From fines	\$13,437.15
From sales of catalogues, etc.	71.53
From commissions on telephone stations	415.68
From sale of waste paper	554.76
From payments for lost books	1,019.75
Interest on bank deposits	17.67
	<hr/>
Total	\$15,516.54

ESTIMATES FOR 1925.

The estimates for the maintenance of the Library for the year ending December 31, 1925 (11 months) in segregated budget form, are as follows:

A — Personal service	\$609,497.00
B — Service other than personal	109,277.00
C — Equipment	124,260.00
D — Supplies	31,328.00
E — Materials	20,370.00
F — Special items	792.00
Total	<hr/> \$895,524.00

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

During the year there have been added to the Central Library and branches 80,855 volumes as against 75,534 in 1923. Of these 66,483 were acquired by purchase and 13,362 by gift, exchanges, etc. The total expenditure for books, periodicals, newspapers, and other library material from City appropriation and Trust Funds income, was \$123,930.56. The total number of volumes in the Central Library and branches is 1,388,896.

CIRCULATION.

The total number of books issued for home use during the year was 3,132,194, as against 2,922,861 in 1923.

This year was the first in the history of the institution when the three million mark in home circulation has been exceeded. As the Director has pointed out, the number would soon be doubled if there were more books, more branches and the required service to meet the fast-growing demands made on the Library Department.

GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

The Trustees are glad to report two important bequests during the year 1924: on August 8, a check for \$10,000 from the estate of David P. Kimball, funded as the "David P. Kimball Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books, in ac-

cordance with the terms of the bequest; and on November 28, a check for \$5,000 from the estate of Isabella Stewart Gardner, funded as the "Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of material for the Allen A. Brown Music Library as a memorial to B. J. Lang, in accordance with the terms of the bequest.

In March the Trustees accepted, subject to the approval of the Art Commission, a bronze memorial tablet to those members of the Library staff who served in the late war, presented through the Boston Public Library Employees' Benefit Association, by the employees of the Library. The tablet was placed in position in the court of the Library building and unveiled with appropriate ceremonies on November 11, 1924.

Many important gifts of books and other library material have been received during the year. A detailed statement of these will be found in the Director's report.

TRUST FUNDS.

The Trustees welcome bequests of money, and hope that generous testators may remember the Library. It is from such sources only that they can make purchases of rare works, which give value and rank to a great educational institution, but for which they hesitate to expend public funds appropriated for more popular and pressing use.

As a matter of interest to the public, the Board has pleasure in listing herewith the present trust funds of the Library, with explanatory notes.

Artz Fund.— Donation from MISS VICTORINE THOMAS ARTZ, of Chicago; the income of this sum to be employed in the purchase of valuable, rare editions of the writings, either in verse or prose, of American and foreign authors. These books are to be known as the "Longfellow Memorial Collection." Received in 1896.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$10,000.00

Bates Fund — Donation made by JOSHUA BATES, of London, in March, 1853.

"The income only of this fund is to be each and every year expended in the purchase of such books of permanent value and authority as

may be found most needful and most useful." Payable to the Mayor of the city for the time being.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$50,000.00

Bigelow Fund — Donation made by JOHN P. BIGELOW in August, 1850, when Mayor of the city.

The income from this fund is to appropriated for the purchase of books for the increase of the library.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$1,000.00

Robert Charles Billings Fund — Bequest of ROBERT CHARLES BILLINGS.

"The sum to constitute a permanent fund for said library, to be called the Robert Charles Billing Fund, the income only to be used for the purposes of the purchase of books for said library." Received in 1903.

Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bonds \$100,000.00

Bowditch Fund — Bequest of J. INGERSOLL BOWDITCH. Received in 1890.

The whole income in each and every year to be expended in the purchase of books of permanent value and authority in mathematics and astronomy.

Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond \$10,000.00

Bradlee Fund — Bequest of the REV. CALEB DAVIS BRADLEE to the Boston Public Library. Received in 1897.

Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond \$1,000.00

Joseph H. Center Fund — Bequest of JOSEPH H. CENTER, the income thereof to be at all times applied to the purchase of books and other additions to the library. Received in 1905.

Invested in

City of Boston Four per cent Bond \$1,000.00

City of Boston Three and one half per cent Bonds 38,500.00

Cash in City Treasury, January 31, 1924 43.14

\$39,543.14

Children's Fund — Bequest of JOSIAH H. BENTON of \$100,000, to be held as "The Children's Fund," and the income applied to the purchase of books for the use of the young, to be applied for those purposes only in years when the city appropriates for the maintenance of the Boston Public Library at least three per cent of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said city.

In any year when the city does not thus appropriate at least three per cent of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said City, the income given in said will for the purchase of books shall be paid to the Rector of Trinity Church in the City of Boston to be by him dispensed in relieving the necessities of the poor.

Invested in

City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond	\$15,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bond	62,000.00
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Three and one-half per cent Bond	20,000.00
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Four per cent Bond	6,000.00
Cash, January 31, 1924	117.74
	<hr/>
	\$103,117.74

Clement Fund — Bequest of the late FRANK CLEMENT, of Newton, to be known as the "Frank Clement Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books. Received in 1915.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$2,000.00

Henry Sargent Codman Memorial Fund — This is a contribution from the friends of HENRY SARGENT CODMAN, to be used to perpetuate the memory of Mr. Codman by the purchase of books upon landscape gardening.

It is the desire of the subscribers that a special book plate shall be inserted in each one of the volumes purchased, identifying it as part of their memorial collection. Received in 1898.

<i>Invested in</i> City of Boston Three and one half per cent Bond	\$2,800.00
Cash in Treasury, January 31, 1924	54.41
	<hr/>
	\$2,854.41

Cutter Fund — Bequest of ABRAM E. CUTTER of four thousand dollars and his library of books, the income of the fund to be expended for the purchase of books, and for binding. Received in 1901.

Invested in

City of Boston Three per cent Bond	\$4,000.00
City of Boston Four and one half per cent Bond	100.00
Cash in Treasury, January 31, 1924	40.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,140.00

Elizabeth Fund — Bequest of SARAH A. MATCHETT, late of Brookline, who died October 6, 1910, the object of which is stated in the fol-

lowing extract from her will:

"I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, twenty-five thousand dollars, to be called the Elizabeth fund, to be received, held and securely invested, and only the net income therefrom expended every year in the purchase of such books of permanent value and authority as may be most useful in said Library."

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$25,000.00

Daniel Sharp Ford Fund — A bequest of DANIEL SHARP FORD to the Public Library of the City of Boston. Received in 1900.

Invested in City of Boston Three per cent Bond . . . \$6,000.00

Franklin Club Fund — Donation made in June, 1863, by a literary association of young men in Boston, who, at the dissolution of the association, authorized its trustees, Thomas Minns, John J. French and J. Franklin Reed, to dispose of the funds on hand in such manner as to them should seem judicious. They elected to bestow it on the Public Library, attaching to it the following conditions: "In trust, that the income, but the income only, shall, from year by year, be expended in the purchase of books of permanent value, for the use of the free Public Library of the city, and as far as practicable of such a character as to be of special interest to young men." The trustees expressed a preference for books relative to government and political economy.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one quarter
per cent Bond \$1,000.00*

Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund — Bequest of ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER.

"To the Trustees of the Boston Public Library, for the Brown Musical Library, for a memorial to B. J. Lang." Received in 1924.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . \$5,000.00

Green Fund — Donations of DR. SAMUEL A. GREEN of \$2,000, the income of which is to be expended for the purchase of books relating to American history. Received in 1878 and 1884.

Invested in

City of Boston Five per cent Bond \$ 500.00

City of Boston Four per cent Bond 1,000.00

City of Boston Three per cent Bond 500.00

\$2,000.00

Charlotte Harris Fund — Bequest of CHARLOTTE HARRIS, late of Boston, the object of which is stated in the following extract from her will: "I give to the Charlestown Public Library \$10,000, to be

invested of interest, which interest is to be applied to the purchase of books published before 1850. I also give to said Public Library my own private library and the portrait of my grandfather, Richard Devens." Bequests accepted by City Council, July 31, 1877.

Invested in City of Boston Four and one quarter
per cent Bond \$10,000.00

Thomas B. Harris Fund — Bequest of THOMAS B. HARRIS, late of Charlestown, for the benefit of the Charlestown Public Library. Received in 1884.

Invested in City of Boston Five per cent Bond . . . \$1,000.00

Hyde Fund — Bequest of FRANKLIN P. HYDE of Boston, to be known as the "Franklin P. Hyde Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material. Received in 1915.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$3,600.00
Cash, January 31, 1924 32.40

\$3,632.40

David P. Kimball Fund — Bequest of DAVID P. KIMBALL.

"I give to the Public Library of the City of Boston, the income to be used for the purchase of books, \$10,000." Received in 1924.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . \$10,000.00

Arthur Mason Knapp Fund — Extract from the will of KATHERINE KNAPP: "To the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), to be known as the Arthur Mason Knapp Fund, of which the income only shall be used for the purchase of books for said library. And I hereby request that such books be designated with an appropriate label or inscription, bearing the name of the Fund." Received in 1914.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$10,000.00

Abbott Lawrence Fund — Bequest of ABBOTT LAWRENCE, of Boston. Received in 1860. The interest on this fund is to be exclusively appropriated for the purchase of books for the said library having a permanent value.

Invested in City of Boston Three and one half per
cent Bond \$10,000.00

Edward Lawrence Fund — Bequest of EDWARD LAWRENCE, of Charlestown. Received in 1886. The following clause from his will explains its purpose:

"To hold and apply the income and so much of the principal as they may choose, to the purchase of special books of reference to be kept and used only at the Charlestown branch of said Public Library."

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$500.00

Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund — Bequest of ELIZABETH LEWIS, to be known as the Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund: "I give and bequeath to the Boston Public Library the sum of \$5,000 as a fund, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of such old and rare books as shall be fitly selected to augment the collection known as the John A. Lewis Library." Received in 1903.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$5,000.00

Charles Greely Loring Memorial Fund — Donation from the family of CHARLES GREELY LORING, the income of which is to be expended for the purchase of books for the West End Branch. Received in 1896.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$500.00

Charles Mead Fund — Bequest of CHARLES MEAD, to constitute the Charles Mead Public Library Trust Fund for the promotion of the objects of the Public Library in such manner as the government of said library shall deem best, and so far as the government shall deem consistent with the objects of the library to be used for the benefit of the South Boston Branch Library. Received in 1896.

Invested in City of Boston Four and one half per cent Bond \$2,500.00

The Oakland Hall Trust Fund — By an interlocutory decree of the Probate Court for the County of Suffolk, the amount of \$11,781.44 was received, the same being one-half of the net amount received from the disposition of certain property held by the Trustees, under an indenture between Amor Hollingsworth, Sumner A. Burt and Amor L. Hollingsworth, all of Milton, Mass., and John H. McKendry, of Boston, Mass., entered into the sixth day of August, 1870. The above amount was accepted by the City, January 2, 1924, and the Trustees of the Public Library voted to invest the same under the name of "The Oakland Hall Trust Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material for the Mattapan Branch.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . \$11,000.00
Cash, January 31, 1924 781.44

\$11,781.44

John Boyle O'Reilly Fund — Donation received from the PAPHOS CLUB to establish a fund in memory of John Boyle O'Reilly, late member of said club, the income of said fund to be devoted to the purchase of books for the Boston Public Library. Received in 1897.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$1,000.00

Phillips Fund — Donation made by JONATHAN PHILLIPS, of Boston, in April, 1853.

The interest of this fund is to be used exclusively for the purchase of books for said library.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$10,000.00

Also a bequest by the same gentleman in his will dated September 20, 1849.

The interest on which is to be annually devoted to the maintenance of a free Public Library.

Invested in City of Boston Three and one half per cent Bond \$20,000.00

Both of these items are payable to the Mayor of the city for the time being.

Pierce Fund — Donation made by HENRY L. PIERCE, Mayor of the city, November 29, 1873, and accepted by the City Council, December 27, 1873.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$5,000.00

Sarah E. Pratt Fund — Bequest from SARAH E. PRATT, late of Boston under the 14th clause of her will for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch, \$500.00.

By vote of the trustees the bequest to be funded as the Sarah E. Pratt Fund, the income to be applied to the purchase of books for the Dorchester Branch. Received in January, 1922.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$1,400.00

Cash in City Treasury, January 31, 1924 . . . 64.30

\$1,464.30

Scholfield Fund — Bequest of ARTHUR SCHOLFIELD, who died in New York, January 17, 1883. The interest to be paid to certain heirs during their lives, and then to be used for the purchase of books of permanent value. The last heir, Joseph Scholfield, died November 18, 1889, and by his will bequeathed to the City of Boston the sum of \$11,766.67, which represents the income of said fund received by him up to the time of his death, to which was added \$33.33 accrued interest on deposit up to the time of investment, to be added to the fund given by his brother.

Invested in

City of Boston Four per cent Bond \$32,800.00

City of Boston Four and one quarter per cent Bond . . . 12,000.00

City of Boston Four and one half per cent Bonds . . . 6,000.00

City of Boston Five per cent Bonds 11,000.00

\$61,800.00

Sewall Fund — Extract from the will of RICHARD BLACK SEWALL:

"*Tenth.*— I bequeath the following pecuniary legacies clear of legacy tax, namely, To the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston \$25,000 (twenty-five thousand dollars) to be added to their funds and the income to be used for the purchase of books." Received in 1918.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per</i>	
cent Bond	\$25,000.00

Skinner Fund — Extract from the will of FRANCIS SKINNER:

"*Eleventh.*— All my books and library I give and bequeath to my son to be enjoyed by him during his life and after his death to be distributed as he shall appoint among such public libraries as he shall judge fit, and in case he makes no such appointment then to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston.

"*Sixteenth.*— All the rest and residue of my said property of whatever kind, I give and bequeath to Augustus P. Loring and J. Lewis Stackpole in trust to pay the net income to my son Francis Skinner, Jr., during his life, or to apply the same to his maintenance and support, or the maintenance and support of any issue of his, as they shall think best during his life; and at his death to apply the income to the maintenance and support of his issue until his youngest child shall reach the age of 21 years and then to distribute said property among said issue, the issue of a deceased child to take the share a parent would have taken if living.

"If there shall be no issue surviving at the time of my son's death, then to turn the said property into cash and to divide it equally among the following legatees: The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the Museum of Fine Arts of Boston, Massachusetts, the Massachusetts General Hospital, the Medical School of Harvard University, and the Free Hospital for Women, Brookline, Massachusetts."

Invested in

City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond	\$40,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bonds	10,250.00
City of Boston Four and one half per cent Bonds	200.00
16 shares Worcester Street Railway Company	1,280.00
Cash, January 31, 1924	2.14

\$51,732.14

South Boston Branch Library Trust Fund — Donation of a citizen of South Boston, the income of which is to be expended for the benefit of the South Boston Branch Library. Received in 1879.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per</i>	
cent Bond	\$100.00

Mary Elizabeth Stewart Fund — Bequest of MARY ELIZABETH STEWART of \$3,500 to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library. The Trustees voted under date of June 29, 1923, that the income be applied to the purchase of books and other library material.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds \$3,500.00

Patrick F. Sullivan Bequest — Extract from will: "I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library the sum of five thousand dollars, the principal or income of said sum to be expended by them for the purchase of Catholic standard books, said books to be approved by the Archbishop of the diocese of Boston, Mass., or by the President of the Trustees of Boston College, in Boston, Mass." Received in 1908.

This bequest, together with interest amounting to \$339.61, has been expended for books.

Ticknor Bequest — By the will of GEORGE TICKNOR, of Boston, he gave to the City of Boston, on the death of his wife, all his books and manuscripts in the Spanish and Portuguese languages, about four thousand volumes, and also the sum of four thousand dollars. After the receipt of said sums the city is required to spend not less than one thousand dollars in every five years during the twenty-five years next succeeding (*i.e.*, the income of four thousand dollars, at the rate of five per cent per annum) in the purchase of books in the Spanish and Portuguese languages and literature. At the end of twenty-five years the income of said sum to be expended annually in the purchase of books of permanent value, either in the Spanish or Portuguese languages, or in such other languages as may be deemed expedient by those having charge of the library. The books bequeathed or purchased are always to be freely accessible for reference or study, but are not to be loaned for use outside of the library building. If these bequests are not accepted by the city, and the trusts and conditions faithfully executed, the books, manuscripts and money are to be given to the President and Fellows of Harvard College.

In order that the city might receive the immediate benefit of this contribution, Anna Ticknor, widow of the donor, relinquished her right to retain during her life the books and manuscripts, and placed them under the control of the city, the City Council having previously accepted the bequests in accordance with the terms and conditions of said will, and the Trustees of the Public Library received said bequests on behalf of the city, and made suitable arrangements for the care and custody of the books and manuscripts.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per
cent Bonds* \$4,000.00

William C. Todd Newspaper Fund — Donation by WILLIAM C. TODD, accepted by order of the City Council, approved October 30, 1897, the income to be at least two thousand dollars a year, to be expended by the Library Trustees for newspapers of this and other countries.

Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$50,000.00

Townsend Fund — Donation from William Minot and William Minot, Jr., executors of the will of MARY P. TOWNSEND, of Boston, at whose disposal she left a certain portion of her estate in trust for such charitable and public institutions as they might think meritorious. Said executors accordingly selected the Public Library of the City of Boston as one of such institutions, and attached the following conditions to the legacy: "The income only shall, in each and every year, be expended in the purchase of books for the use of the library; each of which books shall have been published in some one edition at least five years at the time it may be so purchased." Received in 1879.

Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond \$4,000.00

Treadwell Fund — By the will of the late DANIEL TREADWELL, of Cambridge, late Rumford Professor in Harvard College, who died February 27, 1872, he left the residue of his estate, after payment of debts, legacies, etc., in trust to his executors, to hold during the life of his wife for her benefit, and after her decease to divide the residue then remaining in the hands of the Trustees, as therein provided, and convey one-fifth part thereof to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston.

By order of the City Council, approved May 17, 1872, said bequest was accepted and the Trustees of the Public Library authorized to receive the same and invest it in the City of Boston Bonds, income of which is to be expended by said Trustees in such manner as they may deem for the best interests of the library.

Invested in

City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond . . .	\$1,000.00
City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds . . .	3,100.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bonds	9,850.00
Cash in City Treasury, January 31, 1924	37.69

\$13,987.69

Tufts Fund — Bequest of NATHAN A. TUFTS, of Charlestown, to be known as the "Nathan A. Tufts Fund," the income to be applied

at all times to the purchase of books and other additions to the library to be placed in the Charlestown Branch. Received in 1906.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per</i>	
cent Bonds	\$10,100.00
Cash in City Treasury, January 31, 1924 . . .	31.77
	<hr/>
	\$10,131.77

Twentieth Regiment Memorial Fund — Donation on account of the TWENTIETH REGIMENT MEMORIAL FUND, the income to be used for the purchase of books of a military and patriotic character, to be placed in the alcove appropriated as a memorial to the Twentieth Regiment. Received in 1897.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per</i>	
cent Bond	\$5,000.00

Wales Fund — Extract from the will of GEORGE C. WALES:

"After the foregoing bequests I direct that the sum of five thousand dollars be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the same to be held, managed and invested by them, so as to produce an income, and the said income to be applied to the purchase of such books for said Library as they may deem best." Received in 1918.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per</i>	
cent Bond	\$5,000.00

Mehitable C. C. Wilson Fund — Bequest of MEHITABLE C. C. WILSON, the income to be expended for the purchase of books for the Boston Public Library.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds .</i>	\$1,000.00
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Whitney Funds — Bequests of JAMES LYMAN WHITNEY, who died September 25, 1910.

Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund — The twelfth clause of his will directed that: One-tenth of said remaining income of the principal fund, I direct to be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, to be held and accumulated by said Trustees and permanently invested and re-invested. The first five thousand dollars of income so accumulated, including the income thereon arising during the period of accumulation, I request to be funded in the name of my sister, Alice Lincoln Whitney, and the income of said fund after its accumulation or so much of said income as may be required, to be paid to such employees of the said Library, who are sick and in need of help, as the Trustees may in their discretion deem most

worthy (there are often such cases). Any amount of income from said accumulated fund not needed for the purpose just mentioned shall be used for the purchase of books and manuscripts.

Invested in

City of Boston Five per cent Bond	\$ 500.00
City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds	1,000.00
City of Boston Four Per cent Bonds	3,500.00

James Lyman Whitney Fund — The Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund having been established, all amounts of income of the principal fund paid to said Trustees after the accumulation of said fund of five thousand dollars shall be held as the James Lyman Whitney Fund, and invested and reinvested and the income used in equal shares, one share for the purchase of rare and expensive books, and one share for the purchase and care of manuscripts; one half at least of the share devoted to manuscripts to be expended for their cataloguing and proper care.

Invested in

City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bonds	\$1,200.00
City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds	2,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bonds	4,700.00
Cash in City Treasury, January 31, 1924	745.84

\$8,645.84

In addition to the above Mr. Whitney created a trust, directing that of the net income seven hundred dollars a year be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, to be expended on bibliographic work for the benefit of the Library.

Donations — Besides the preceding, the following donations have been made to the Public Library, and the amounts have been appropriated for the purchase of books, according to the intention of the donors, viz.:

J. Ingersoll Bowditch	\$6,800.00
Samuel Appleton, late of Boston	1,000.00
Sally Inman Kast Shepard	1,000.00
James Brown, late of Cambridge	500.00
Andrew Carnegie	980.75
Nathaniel I. Bowditch	200.00
James Nightingale	100.00
Dorchester and Milton Circulating Library, for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch Library	335.13

\$10,915.88

RECAPITULATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUST FUNDS.

Artz Fund	\$ 10,000.00
Bates Fund	50,000.00
Bigelow Fund	1,000.00
Robert Charles Billings Fund	100,000.00
Bowditch Fund	10,000.00
Bradlee Fund	1,000.00
Joseph H. Center Fund	39,543.14
Children's Fund	103,117.74
Clement Fund	2,000.00
Henry Sargent Codman Memorial Fund	2,854.41
Cutter Fund	4,140.00
Elizabeth Fund	25,000.00
Daniel Sharp Ford Fund	6,000.00
Franklin Club Fund	1,000.00
Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund	5,000.00
Green Fund	2,000.00
Charlotte Harris Fund	10,000.00
Thomas B. Harris Fund	1,000.00
Hyde Fund	3,632.40
David P. Kimball Fund	10,000.00
Arthur Mason Knapp Fund	10,000.00
Abbott Lawrence Fund	10,000.00
Edward Lawrence Fund	500.00
Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund	5,000.00
Charles Greely Loring Memorial Fund	500.00
Charles Mead Fund	2,500.00
The Oakland Hall Trust Fund	11,781.44
John Boyle O'Reilly Fund	1,000.00
Phillips Funds	30,000.00
Pierce Fund	5,000.00
Sarah E. Pratt Fund	1,464.30
Scholfield Fund	61,800.00
Sewall Fund	25,000.00
Skinner Fund	51,732.14
South Boston Branch Library Trust Fund	100.00
Mary Elizabeth Stewart Fund	3,500.00
Ticknor Fund	4,000.00
William C. Todd Newspaper Fund	50,000.00
Townsend Fund	4,000.00
Treadwell Fund	13,987.69
Nathan A. Tufts Fund	10,131.77
Twentieth Regiment Memorial Fund	5,000.00
Wales Fund	5,000.00
Mehitable C. C. Wilson Fund	1,000.00
Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund	5,000.00
James Lyman Whitney Fund	8,645.84
	<hr/>
	\$713,930.87

NEEDS.

The Trustees wish to call special attention to the report of the Director, which contains many points of general interest about the needs and conditions of the Library. From this report it

will be clearly seen that a larger income must be provided for necessary repairs and upkeep. Attention has been repeatedly called to the pressing physical needs of the Library. It is false economy to postpone from year to year the repairs and improvements which are so urgently required.

Much has been done and still more can be done by the Public Library of the City of Boston with its present collections and its incomplete personnel. But if it is to keep in the front rank of educational institutions and serve as it should the demands of an eager general public it must do several things. It must first set its house in order — must make suitable for occupancy and service its main building and branches and must have an income sufficient for keeping them in proper condition. Even more important, however, is the necessity of rounding out and constantly adding to its great collections for the use of scholars and of extending its service to the general reading public through the acquisition of a larger number of the more popular books, especially books other than fiction, for both the branches and the Central Library.

THE WEST END BRANCH.

In September the Trustees received notice from the Board of Street Commissioners of the taking of 3,119 square feet of land from the West End Branch Library property on Cambridge Street, for highway purposes, with an award of \$24,500. In January, 1925, under a ruling of the Law Department, this award was cancelled and rescinded, inasmuch as the title of the property was in the City of Boston.

FINES FOR YOUNGER BORROWERS.

On January 9, 1925, the Director reported that the rule of the Trustees of November 23, 1903, authorizing the remittance at the end of six months of fines charged against borrowers under 16 years of age, was unsatisfactory in many ways, and recommended that the practice be discontinued and that fines for such borrowers be reduced to one cent for each day beyond the time for which the book was lent, and payment of the same required before the borrowing privileges be restored.

The recommendation was approved and adopted, to take effect February 1, 1925, or as soon thereafter as convenient.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

The Trustees gratefully acknowledge the assistance rendered by the Examining Committee of the year. It appears that the Library can always rely on the generous and cheerful assistance of the best citizens whenever they are asked to render it service. The recommendations of the Committee deserve and have received careful attention. The Committee for 1924-25, consisted of:

Mr. Gordon Abbott.
Rev. William J. Barry.
John T. Bottomley, M.D.
Mrs. I. Tucker Burr.
Miss Ida M. Cannon.
Mr. Hollis French.
Mr. John I. Fitzgerald.
Mr. Henry Lewis Johnson.

Mr. Jacob J. Kaplan.
Mr. John C. Kiley.
Mr. Malcolm Lang.
Hon. Frank Leveroni.
Mrs. Joseph T. Mooney.
Mrs. Fred L. Pigeon.
Miss Mary Ranney.
Rev. Lyman V. Rutledge.

Miss Sara H. Stites.

The helpful and suggestive report of the Committee is appended to the report of the Trustees.

CONCLUSION.

The Trustees feel that the service of the Library has been well administered during the year. This has been in a large degree due to the efficient and loyal service of the Director and his staff.

Each year since the adoption of the Boston Retirement Act, the Library has been deprived of a number of employees. To these employees of long and faithful service the Library owes much, and the Trustees cannot conclude their report without an expression of their appreciation of such service.

LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN,
MICHAEL J. MURRAY,
WILLIAM A. GASTON,
ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY,
GUY W. CURRIER.

BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

DR.

CENTRAL LIBRARY AND BRANCHES:

To expenditures for

Permanent employees (exclusive of Printing and Binding Departments)	\$391,203.07	
Temporary employees	140,965.51	
	<hr/>	\$532,168.58

Service other than personal

Contract work (outside)	296.91	
Postage	1,354.24	
Transportation of persons	336.01	
Cartage and freight	12,121.58	
Light and power	14,031.90	
Rent, taxes and water	16,223.30	
Premium on surety bonds	17.50	
Communication	1,534.90	
Cleaning, towels, etc.	815.59	
Removal of snow	494.05	
Examinations	126.00	
Expert and architect	645.60	
Fees	2.50	
Boiler inspection	44.00	
General plant repairs	10,661.72	
	<hr/>	58,705.80

To expenditure for equipment

Furniture and fixtures	2,687.90	
Office	989.68	
Motorless vehicles	65.00	
Tools and instruments	679.02	
Books:		
City appropriation	\$91,276.19	
Trust funds income	21,262.00	
	<hr/>	112,538.19

Newspapers:

City appropriation	519.73	
Todd fund	1,815.05	
	<hr/>	2,334.78
Periodicals	8,775.59	
Photographs	282.00	
General plant equipment	788.53	
	<hr/>	129,140.69

To expenditures for supplies:

Office	4,052.88	
Food and ice	379.40	
Fuel	19,494.46	
Forage for animals	20.50	
Medical	12.78	
Laundry, cleaning and toilet	1,259.50	
Agricultural	44.70	
Chemicals and disinfectants	32.29	
General plant	2,261.24	
	<hr/>	27,557.75

Carried forward \$747,572.82

EXPENSES, JANUARY 31, 1925.

CR.

BY CITY APPROPRIATION 1924-1925	\$828,567.00	
Income from Trust Funds	24,852.54	
Income from James L. Whitney Bibliographic account	700.00	
Interest on deposit in London	243.90	
	<hr/>	\$854,363.44

BY BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 1924:

Trust funds income, City Treasury	46,615.09	
Trust funds income on deposit in London	17,292.45	
City appropriation on deposit in London	4,298.04	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account	5,260.61	
Library Building Addition, equipping and furnishing	15,803.50	
	<hr/>	89,269.69

Carried forward

\$943,633.13

BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

DR.

Brought forward		\$747,572.82	
To expenditures for material			
Building	\$ 171.00		
Electric	2,002.49		
General plant	4,701.78		
			6,875.27
Special items			
Pensions	1,315.69		
Workingmen's compensation (Bindery)	107.45		
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account	340.46		
			1,763.60
BINDING DEPARTMENT:			
Salaries	56,858.09		
Stock	5,627.83		
Equipment	4,756.52		
Light	54.16		
Repairs	154.95		
Medical service	10.00		
Furniture, tools, ice and small supplies	67.30		
			67,528.85
PRINTING DEPARTMENT:			
Salaries	13,101.06		
Stock	1,998.27		
Equipment	2,179.27		
Light	36.11		
Repairs	36.11		
Outside work	101.02		
Travelling expenses	80.82		
Furniture, tools, ice and small supplies	58.09		
			17,590.75
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION: Library Building Addition			
Equipping and furnishing	4,004.11		
			4,004.11
TO AMOUNT PAID INTO CITY TREASURY:			
From fines	13,437.15		
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists	71.53		
Commission on telephone stations	415.68		
Payments for lost books	1,019.75		
Sale of waste paper	554.76		
Interest on deposit	17.67		
			15,516.54
TO BALANCE, JANUARY 31, 1925:			
Trust funds income on deposit in London	8,821.10		
City appropriation on deposit in London	3,726.53		
Trust funds income, City Treasury	56,579.93		
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account	5,620.15		
Interest on deposit in London	243.90		
			74,991.61
BALANCE UNEXPENDED:			
General appropriation	11,506.73		
Special appropriation, Library Building Addition	11,799.39		
			23,306.12
			\$959,149.67

EXPENSES, JANUARY 31, 1925.

		CR.
<i>Brought forward</i>		\$943,633.13
BY RECEIPTS:		
From fines	13,437.15	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists	71.53	
Commission on telephone stations	415.68	
Payments for lost books	1,019.75	
Sale of waste paper	554.76	
Interest on deposit	17.67	
	<hr/>	15,516.54

\$959,149.67

REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY
OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

Gentlemen:

The Examining Committee takes pleasure in submitting its report for the year ending January 31, 1925.

INTRODUCTION.

This Committee was formally organized on November 18, 1924, and subdivided into various visiting committees to examine and report upon the different branches of work and conditions of the Boston Public Library. While recognizing that this Committee's function is advisory, its members have given thorough and earnest consideration to the subjects before them and have reached definite conclusions. These are embodied in recommendations which form the conclusion of this report.

In preface to its report the Committee wishes to emphasize the critical situation of some of the Library affairs. The increase in service demanded by the public to keep pace with the growth of educational, artistic, scientific, and business needs, as well as general reading, has taxed to the limit the financial resources.

While substantial increases have been made in the annual appropriation for maintenance and for the purchase of books, the funds have not been sufficient to make necessary repairs and improvements in the Central Library building. This condition can no longer continue without serious detriment to the City's property and the ultimate expenditure of still larger sums. The immediate needs of the Library and the results of the Committee's examinations are grouped as follows:

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.

Your Committee has given special attention at this time to the main library building, Copley Square, because of the imperative need of repairs and extensions.

Second only to the service rendered is the influence of the Library through its appearance. It is generally conceded that no other building in the United States has had a greater influence upon the appreciation of fine architecture and suitable features than the Boston Public Library. The prophetic vision of Joshua Bates in 1852 — "My ideas are that the building should contain lofty apartments to serve for placing the books and also for reading purposes . . . The architecture should be such that the student on entering it will be impressed and elevated and feel pride that such a place is free to him . . . I wish to see the institution a model for other towns and cities." — has been wonderfully fulfilled. The fine library building erected in 1895 has made possible the great growth in circulation for the educational, research and general reading requirements. The general circulation has advanced from 832,113 volumes in 1894 to over 3,000,000 volumes in 1924.

Although the City administration has given a large measure of support to the Library, it has not been possible to use any considerable portion of the annual appropriations for changes or even the necessary maintenance of the building itself. One instance is in the ordinary painting of the interior, but very little refinishing having been done since the erection of the Library. There are leaks in the roof and serious defects in certain mechanical and constructional features. The Committee has examined these in detail and they are too numerous to list in this report.

The main ventilating system has long been abandoned; the main fan cannot run; the prime radiators have been taken away and the air filters have disappeared. The original system was of excellent design and it would be well if it could be restored.

Check valves should be installed in certain pipes to keep sewage from leaking into the building and entering the basement and its pneumatic tube system.

The metal chimney stack needs attention; the pump and fountain tanks should be cleaned and repaired. Some of the main steam line pipes should be replaced; and a back pressure valve furnished on the heating lines; a new return tank is required.

For the sake of safety the elevators should be repaired. The book railway has been out of service for some time and as a result the Library is hiring messengers at an increased expense in operation.

There are some fundamental alterations and rearrangements of increasing importance. There is need of two additional stories on the Annex which would provide not only stack room for the increasing collection of large books now kept in unsightly cabinets in the various galleries of the Special Libraries floor, but would permit the removal of the Catalogue and Ordering Departments to a more suitable location and enable the Children's Department to be transferred to the ground floor and given a separate entrance on Blagden Street.

Another most important change will be the moving of the Music Department into the North Gallery on Boylston Street, thus giving increased room for this department and enabling the Music Room to be fitted up as a Treasure Room.

The constant pruning of appropriations by powers outside the Library has led to a certain physical neglect of the building and its plant. This has become cumulative through the years, but the time has now come when money must be spent in larger amounts upon this part of the City's property, or paralysis of its function will result.

It is urgent that at least \$50,000. be set aside for extraordinary repairs during 1925 and the succeeding years until the property is built up to a standard that can be maintained.

BRANCHES.

The problem of properly housing branch libraries is one which must be recognized as of great importance in the service rendered in different parts of the city. Especially is this so in relation to making adequate provisions for the future.

There are now twelve branches for which rent is being paid. In such cases as the Boylston Station Branch and the Warren Street Branch it is quite unlikely that first-class quarters can be hired for branches. While some provisions may be made for branches in school buildings, your Committee is firmly convinced that the best service can be rendered by branch library buildings well located in each section and with the maximum usefulness in the right apportionment of space for delivery, reading and service departments.

Such branch buildings can be brought about only by local activity and earnest work for such buildings. Your Committee recommends a forward-looking program for the acquirement of a few branch buildings each year as the needs become more apparent.

All branches were visited and an examination made of the libraries and the working conditions. The West End Branch, the largest and most active one in the city, shows a falling off in circulation, due to changes in population. It should be added that a personal service is being given to those using the reading rooms and taking out books — service that cannot be measured. It is hoped that the grounds surrounding this beautiful historic building can be improved under the direction of the Trustees after the widening of Cambridge Street.

The Brighton Branch was found to be in need of repairs to the roof, vestibule door and to the furniture. While the location is excellent, it is desirable that the sign on the building be lighted so that people can locate the branch.

The Allston Branch, on the second floor, at the corner of Harvard and Brighton Avenues, is an exceedingly poor layout for a library. The location is good, but street floor quarters are much more desirable. This is one of the branches for which new quarters seem to be essential to the increased service which will be required in this populous district.

Another poorly located branch, housed in a municipal building, is that in Dorchester. The sanitary conditions and lighting, still with gas, are most unsatisfactory. The rooms used are up long, steep stairs.

At the Dorchester Lower Mills Branch the quarters are not

adequate to the circulation of the books. If the Public Buildings Department of the City were to turn over the next room, formerly a police station, now empty and available, to its use, it would be an immense improvement at a comparatively small expense.

The Mattapan Branch shows an encouraging improvement over last year. Its chief defect, which it shares with most of the other branches, is lack of space. The circulation has increased about 20,000 books this year. If there is an opportunity of securing additional space, it will add much to the usefulness of this library.

The Mt. Bowdoin Branch is pleasant and well situated, but inadequate to its needs. It would be very desirable if the whole building could be used for library purposes.

The main South Boston Branch at 372 Broadway is one of the oldest in the entire city and it is also one of the busiest. It has put into circulation over 138,000 books thus far this year. Its quarters are inadequate, although satisfactory as far as they go. The branch is used more and more by so many children that the space for adult readers is greatly encroached upon. More books in foreign languages for the use of adult readers should be provided.

Reports of sub-committee visits to other branches show the need in some instances of better housing, and particularly improvement in lighting, many lights being too high for readers' use. These conditions have led to the recommendation that it would be desirable to hire two men permanently to go from one branch to another to do the carpentering and painting so constantly needed.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT AND WORK WITH SCHOOLS.

This department of the Library, having the welfare of the future citizens in its hands, should be given the greatest consideration.

This year, many thousands of dollars have been expended for purchasing books for the younger readers; still the supply is inadequate.

Not enough can be said in praise of the great value of the Story Hour to the children, both in their school work and in their everyday activities.

The Supervisor of Work with Children has kindly offered to talk to the pupils of the public schools, giving them definite instructions concerning books and the subjects which they may wish to look up. It is hoped that the principals will avail themselves of this helpful and generous offer.

She also suggests that more teachers accompany their classes to the library that they may familiarize themselves with its use.

The librarians in the various branches have been doing splendid work by their co-operation with the evening schools in their Americanization classes. Much praise should be given to the employees of the Library for their efforts in behalf of the children.

BOOKS AND CATALOGUES.

The chief function of a library is the education and delectation of the public through the circulation of proper books and through encouragement and direction in their use. As a community grows in numbers and as the amount of available leisure time of its individuals increases, so should the number of books and the facility of their distribution be augmented. That such a condition may obtain, certain factors are of paramount importance: a sufficient number of books, adequate funds for their provision and ample room for storing, protecting and handling them.

As one walks through the inner rooms of the Library, there are several features which should attract critical comment; the crowding of certain rooms, the inadequate space for carrying on the work of the institution, and the need of repairs in the physical condition of the building are apparent.

PRINTING AND BINDING.

New machinery added during the past year seems to have thoroughly justified itself. Plans under way for increasing the equipment of the Printing Department are approved. The Bindery is in great need of a number of minor machines to pro-

duce the work economically and to meet the increasing needs in rebinding.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

The Committee finds that the special collections of permanent value, which are the most distinguishing feature of any library, are suffering because the income from invested funds is not sufficient to provide for the acquirement of books which are essential for current study and scholarly research in trades, arts and sciences.

There should be much more general understanding of the value and needs of these special collections, and this can best be brought about through publicity, extending over a considerable period. This should lead to gifts and endowments for the particular collections or departments in which the donors are interested.

The New York Public Library has an endowment of \$16,000,000. The Boston Public Library has an available endowment of less than \$800,000. So serious a handicap is rapidly lowering the usefulness and scholarly standing of our Library.

The policy of private endowment for public libraries is well established, but in Boston there has never been a systematic effort to build up such funds. The members of the Examining Committee most strongly urge that the Trustees take immediate action for such publicity, and the appointment of a committee to build up adequate gift and endowment funds.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

The Committee has discussed in much detail, and wishes to emphasize, four pressing needs for the maintenance and progress of the Library.

1. That a continuing large book appropriation is vitally essential and that under no circumstances should it be reduced from that of last year.
2. That a large appropriation be made for the necessary repairs and improvements in the main library building.

3. That the over-crowding of certain branches be overcome and environment features be improved.
4. That a plan of publicity be adopted so that citizens may know more about the services and needs of the Library, such publicity to assist in securing maintenance appropriations and gifts for building up the special collections.

CONCLUSIONS.

The Committee extends its thanks to the Director and to all the staff of the Library with whom its members have had conferences. The contact of the Committee with the affairs of the Library is most convincing of the great service which the institution is giving; the importance of maintaining its prestige and extending its opportunities for the cultural progress and attainments of all who come within its influence.

Adopted as the Report of the Examining Committee, January 30, 1925.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR.

TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

I respectfully submit my report for the year ending January 31, 1925.

THE CENTRAL AND BRANCH BUILDINGS.

Year after year attention has been called to the pressing need for repairs and renewal of equipment. After thirty years of use most of the mechanical equipment of the Central Library has now broken down. The book carrier system has been out of commission for several months, necessitating the carrying of all books by messenger, with a consequent delay in service. The frequent breakdown of the pneumatic tube system which carries the call-slips for books from the issue room to the various floors of the library stacks, has resulted in serious delays, confusion, and on the part of the users of the Library many complaints. No funds have been available to improve the unsatisfactory lighting in different parts of the building, to which attention has been frequently called. The heating system is said to be only thirty per cent efficient, while the ventilating system, old fashioned and inadequate, except for the lecture-hall unit installed last year, is practically useless. Criticism is continually being received of the lack of proper ventilation. Most of the departments of the Library require thorough cleaning and re-painting, while others need new equipment and re-arrangement for greater efficiency of service. The mural decorations demand immediate attention, in order to prevent serious deterioration.

Similar conditions prevail, as has been noted, at many of the branches of the library system. Cleaning, painting, lighting, additional equipment are greatly needed, especially in the branches located in municipal buildings. The Library Depart-

ment has the good will of the Buildings Department of the City, but appropriations are insufficient to keep in attractive and suitable condition the library quarters under municipal care.

CIRCULATION AND ACCESSION OF BOOKS.

The year has been one of progress. The total home circulation of books throughout the system was 3,132,194 volumes, a gain of 209,333 over 1923-24. The branch circulation, exclusive of the deposits of books sent to schools and various institutions, was 2,283,777 volumes, a gain of 148,078 volumes over the previous year, while the increase in deposits was 46,056 volumes.

The Central Library shows a direct home circulation of 623,024 volumes. In place of the loss reported last year, there is a gain of 46,027 volumes over the home circulation of the Central Library in 1923-24.

The inability of the Central Library and the Branches to meet the legitimate call for books on the part of the citizens of Boston is a matter of regret. The home use of books would doubtless be increased by several millions of volumes annually, if the Library possessed the books for which a reasonable demand is made, and if there were the necessary new branches in those sections of the city at present unprovided with satisfactory library service.

Interesting comparative tables showing the use of books may be found on pages 62-65 of the Appendix.

The book accessions for the year total 80,855 volumes, of which 66,483 were acquired by purchase and 12,003 by gift. A somewhat increased book appropriation enabled the Library to buy a larger number of current books than in the preceding year, and together with the available income from Trust Funds made possible an outlay of \$112,409.74.

In addition, \$8,775.59 was expended for current periodicals, \$2,155.43 for current newspapers and \$589.80 for lantern slides and photographs, making a total of \$123,930.56 paid for books and allied material, or approximately fourteen per cent of the total expenditures of the Library for the year.

In re-budgeting the gross sum of \$100,000, allowed by the City for books, approximately eighty per cent was devoted to branch library use and apportioned to the individual branches on the basis of their yearly circulation. The sum agreed upon for this purpose early in the year was \$77,379 (\$74,000 for books, \$3,379 for periodicals and newspapers), but owing to unusual purchases, chiefly expensive books of reference, this sum was exceeded by \$1,944, bringing the total to \$79,323.20 (books \$75,861.74, periodicals \$3,055.46, newspapers \$306).

For the Central Library there was available the sum of \$20,677 from the City appropriation, to cover the acquisition of current popular books, including fiction, circulating music, directories and other working tools for the Information Room, current periodicals, a part of the newspaper subscriptions, and replacement of missing books, particularly non-fiction.

From the income available from Trust Funds, \$23,359.05 supplemented the City appropriation, and after setting aside the Todd Fund of \$2,000 for newspapers, there was left something over \$21,000 for the upkeep and development of the many collections shelved in the Special Libraries Department — fine arts, architecture, music (for the Allen A. Brown Library), photographs, Americana, maps, and early printed books, — as well as for encyclopaedias and atlases, genealogy and history for other departments of reference.

From these available funds only a few older works of importance could be purchased. Those that were bought are believed to be of exceptional significance for the Boston Library, especially a Portolan Atlas consisting of six manuscript sea charts, of which four cover all of the American coast line as known in the latter part of the sixteenth century.

These charts, drawn on parchment and mounted on stiff cardboard, are bound in old French morocco and measure $10\frac{1}{4}$ by $13\frac{3}{4}$ inches; the first page is filled by a large reproduction, in gold and colors, of the jewel of the Order of the Annunciation, bearing the arms of one of the Dukes of Savoy. The first map in the volume shows Panama and the whole of South America excepting the extreme eastern part; the second gives the coast of Brazil; the third, the Caribbean Sea and the

eastern coast of North America; fourth, the Mediterranean; fifth, the northern half of eastern North America; the last, the African coast from Guinea round the Cape of Good Hope to Madagascar. The coast lines are shown in full detail, with hundreds of names written in, the lower courses of rivers, a scale of miles, and the compass-rose in gold and colors. On the chart of the Mediterranean the most striking feature is an elaborate view of the city of Marseilles, with its flags flying, covering most of southeastern France, and in the right-hand corner the inscription "Augustin Roussin m'a feict dans la ville de marseille."

No clue is found to tell who Augustin Roussin may have been or what, if any, connection he may have had with the coat of arms, but the character of the workmanship seems to indicate the hand of a practical navigator who has brought together his data from actual experience assisted by tradition. The purchase of this unusual volume was concluded only when expert authorities had pronounced upon its genuineness and importance; it is the first original example of a sailing chart of the period to be acquired by the Library.

Among accessions of local interest was a copy of an early Boston imprint, based upon an English book of the same name, entitled *The young secretary's guide: or, a speedy help to learning*. In two parts. With a dictionary added . . . Also an appendix. Collected by B. W. Boston, N. E. Printed by B. Green, for Nicholas Buttolph . . . 1708.

A note to the reader contains this statement, "It's thought good to make a collection of such presidents (sic) as are most in use among us here in New England and to fit them . . . to the circumstances of this country." It has been suggested that B. W. was Benjamin Wadsworth, president of Harvard College.

Another interesting acquisition was a small worn pamphlet lacking the lower halves of three leaves, with a continuous pagination which stopped with page 42. This was identified as an incomplete copy of "*Good fetch'd out of evil*" (Boston, 1706) by Cotton Mather, containing his comments on the Deerfield massacre and incorporating a pastoral letter from the Reverend John Williams, then in captivity, addressed to his departing companions, dated May 28, 1706. Furthermore, it was found

that a fragment of this pamphlet was contained in the Prince Library and that the fragment consisted of pages 23 to 26 and the necessary concluding pages 43 to 46 "finis." This happy junction resulted in a nearly complete copy of a Mather pamphlet of which only one other (and that imperfect) is known, in the Library of the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association at Deerfield.

Among the books currently published the most attractive in form and costly in price are those which are needed to extend the collections of architecture, painting, landscape gardening, and book illustration. The Codman Collection of Landscape Architecture and Landscape Gardening is the only one of these divisions which has a special sustaining fund, generously given by the family whose name it bears, to insure the purchase of books needed for its development.

For the fine arts the purchases are governed by the money that can be spared from limited funds, a sum which might well be doubled or trebled to keep pace with the mounting cost of book production, and the appreciating value of older works of note. The following selected titles show some of the important additions made to the Special Libraries during the year.

- Ashton, Leigh. An introduction to the study of Chinese sculpture. London. 1924. Plates.
- Bénédict, Léonce. A series of 60 photogravure plates. London. 1924.
- Benson, Arthur Christopher & Sir Lawrence Weaver, editors. The book of the Queen's Dolls' House. 2 v. London. 1924. Colored portraits. This house was made for Queen Mary of England.
- Bossert, Helmuth Theodor, editor. Two thousand decorative motifs in colour, forming a survey of the applied art of all ages and all countries. London. 1924. Colored plates.
- Brown, Louise Norton. Block printing & book illustration in Japan. London. 1924. Plates.
- Crisp, Sir Frank. Mediaeval gardens. 'Flowery Medes' and other arrangements of herbs, flowers and shrubs grown in the Middle Ages, with some account of Tudor, Elizabethan and Stuart gardens. 2 v. London. 1924. Plates.
- Drinkwater, John. Claud Lovat Fraser. By John Drinkwater and Albert Rutherford. With representative examples of his work reproduced in collotype and line. London. 1923. Portrait. Plates.
- Eisen, Gustav August. The great chalice of Antioch, on which are

- depicted in sculpture the earliest known portraits of Christ, Apostles and Evangelists. 2 v. New York. 1923. Plates.
- Feuillet, Raoul Auger. Recueil de dances contenant un très grand nombres (sic) des meilleures entrées de ballet de Mr. Pécour, tant pour homme que pour femmes, dont la plus grande partie ont été dancées à l'Opéra. À Paris. 1704. Music. Engraved throughout. For the Allen A. Brown Library.
- Jessen, Peter. Rococo engravings. Two hundred plates of the eighteenth century selected by Dr. Peter Jessen and reproduced in collotype. London. 1922.
- Kendrick, Albert, and C. E. C. Tattersall. Fine carpets in the Victoria & Albert Museum. Twenty examples, reproduced for the first time in colour, of old carpets from Persia, India, Caucasia, Armenia, Turkey, China, Spain and England. London. 1924. Illus. Colored plates.
- Koop, Albert J. Early Chinese bronzes. London. 1924. Plates.
- Meier-Graefe, Julius A. Cézanne und seine Ahnen. Faksimiles nach Aquarellen, Feder- und anderen Zeichnungen von Tintoretto, Greco, Poussin, Corot, Delacroix, Cézanne. München. 1921. Plates.
- Millais, John Guille. Rhododendrons . . . and the various hybrids. Second series. London. [1924.] Plates.
- Nevill, Ralph Henry. Old French line engravings. London. 1924. Plates.
- Rackham, Bernard, and Herbert Read. English pottery: its development from early times to the end of the eighteenth century. London. 1924. Plates.
- Watts, William Whitehead. Old English silver. London. 1924. Plates.
- Westlake, Herbert Francis. Westminster Abbey, the church, convent, cathedral and college of St. Peter, Westminster. London. 1923. 2 v. Illus. Plates. Plans. Ornamental initials.
- Williams, P. H. Oakley, editor. Selections from the work of P. A. de László represented by a selection of 64 of his portraits in photogravure. London. 1923. Portraits.

Other noteworthy acquisitions include:

- Bishop Harsnett's Declaration of egregious Popish impostures to withdraw the harts of his maiestie's subiects from their allegiance. London. 1604. (Secured at the Britwell Sale.)
- A first edition of James Hodder's Arithmetick; or that necessary art made most easie. London. 1661. (From the Britwell Sale for the Bowditch Library.)
- John Marbeck's A book of notes and common-places, with their expositions . . . London. 1581. (From the Britwell Sale)

Thomas Dilworth's *A new guide to the English tongue*. Boston. 1783.
 The Player's Shakespeare in 4 volumes, London, 1923-24, a literal reprint of the First Folio of 1623, illustrated in color by artists associated with the modern stage.

An issue of the Bibliophile Society, Dickens in cartoon and caricature, compiled by William Glyde Wilkins, with portraits and plates.

A portrait of George Washington, engraved by Timothy Cole from the painting by Wilford Seymour Conrow, Boston, 1924; William Cullen Bryant's copy of Longfellow's *Poems*, published in Liverpool, in 1850 and a first issue of the first edition of the *Manuel de proverbes dramatiques*, Portland, 1850. (For the Artz Collection.)

An autograph letter of three pages signed by the late President Wilson addressed to his brother-in-law, Stockton Axson, dated Princeton, July 20, 1892, accompanying a note of introduction to Judge Chamberlain, the Chief Librarian of the "Boston Public". The letter to Mr. Axson concludes with the words "In a tired man's haste but with the freshest possible affection. Your affectionate brother, Woodrow Wilson."

A collection of Early American books for children, published chiefly in Boston, 1815 to 1850, and a collection covering about the same period published in London.

John Florio's *Second fruytes* . . . London, 1591, which contains "Phaëton to his friend Florio," believed to be Shakespeare's first printed correspondence.

The older books instanced extend, volume by volume, some of the rare collections which the Library has acquired by gift and by purchase. Indeed all the rare and costly books in the possession of the Library may be said to be gifts, since the funds from which they are bought were all either gifts or bequests.

Very many of these books could not be matched today for ten times their original cost, and while it is a pleasure to know that the Library possesses collections of great value and interest, much coveted material which would still further enrich their content lies beyond the present means of the institution to secure.

Arrangements have been made during the fiscal year with the Reference Service on International Affairs, of the American Library in Paris, to send current material of special or general interest, issued by foreign governments, which is not easily procurable. This service might be widely extended to add desirable material to the Department of Documents and Statistics.

GIFTS OF THE YEAR.

During the year 12,119 volumes and 22,121 issues of serials were received by gift from 7,105 givers. In addition, 50 newspaper subscriptions were received in continuation, 167 photographs, 59 maps, 1 medallion and 219 travel posters. Besides these gifts, which were recorded in the Ordering Department, the Information Room reports 450 annuals received, chiefly school and college catalogues and government publications, and 1,200 serials. These consist mainly of duplicate material for current use in the Room.

There were also received two gifts of money from the following sources: Under the will of the late David P. Kimball, of Boston, a legacy of \$10,000, the income to be applied to the purchase of books in accordance with the terms of the bequest; under the will of the late Isabella Stewart Gardner, a bequest of \$5,000, "for the Brown Musical Library in the Boston Public Library for a memorial to B. J. Lang."

Other gifts of interest are noted as follows: From Mr. George Carroll Curtis, six geography models, true scale reliefs 9" \times 9", representing the form of the earth's surface, for use in connection with school work; from Mr. A. E. Baranger of Los Angeles, a miniature log cabin with the plastic figures of Priscilla and John Alden used in the Charles Ray Motion Pictures; from William Filene Sons Company, sixty-one mounted photographs, 14" \times 16", which were exhibited at the William Filene Sons Company's store during New England week, Sept. 15th to 20th, 1924, and included 43 portraits of men and women "of New England fame"; from the Columbia Phonograph Company, for the Allen A. Brown Music Library, four volumes of their Masterworks Fine Arts Series, comprising complete recordings of Beethoven's Seventh and Eighth Symphonies, Haydn's Quartet in D Major and Mozart's Quartet in C Major; from the Massachusetts Federation of Music Clubs, through Miss Alice Hutchinson, forty-two pieces of music (published works), contributed by the composers, Clara Kathleen Rogers, Margaret Ruthven Lang, and Henry F. Gilbert, for circulation in Massa-

chusetts, and for the Allen A. Brown Music Library a manuscript score of "In the Mountains" by Arthur Foote, and the manuscript of Three Pieces for flute, harp and string quartet by Daniel Gregory Mason; from Mr. James W. Kenney, a photograph of Sichel's Madonna in a hand-carved frame, 48" \times 37", for the North End Branch; from the Chicago, North Shore and Milwaukee Railroad Company, the London and Northeastern Railway, the London, Midland and Scottish Railway, and the South Manchuria Railway Company some 60 attractive colored posters, among the more by Frank Brangwyn.

In addition to the foregoing, there will be found on pages 72-78 of the Appendix a list of books of individual importance and collections of books under the names of the givers.

REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

On February 1, 1924, there were 117,119 "live" cards, that is, registered cards available for present use. During the year just closed 31,726 new registrations, and 31,365 renewals, making a total of 63,091 cards, have been added through the Central Library and branches. There have been 56,216 borrowers who have allowed their home use privilege to lapse, thus leaving a total of 123,994 "live cards" on February 1, 1925; a gain of 6,875 over last year. The gain in registered "live cards" for a five year period has been 21,603.

There had been in all 9,023 cards issued to teachers prior to February 1, 1925. Of this number 1,152 have been renewed and 409 added during the year, making a total of 1,561 teachers' cards in use compared with 1,275 in 1923-24.

Of the 3,562 special privilege cards which had been issued up to February 1, 1925, there were 276 renewals and 153 new cards granted during the year, making a total of 429 special privilege cards in use compared with 404 in 1923-24.

The Department has maintained its efficiency in crowded and inconvenient quarters. As soon as funds permit, provision must be made, as pointed out last year, for the care of the records which have outgrown their present quarters.

CATALOGUE AND SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes and parts of volumes catalogued during the year 1924-25 was 101,128, representing 73,820 titles. Of these 24,135 were books new to the Library; 4,685 were new serials; 19,007 were works recatalogued; and 53,301 were books for the branches. The cataloguing of the books for the branches was done in the Central Branch Department, but the figures are included here to show the total volume of the work in this line.

The number of cards printed during the year was 219,546, of which 188,328 were added to the catalogues of the Central Library, and 31,218 were sent to the branches. Of the cards filed in the Central Library 54,857 were placed in the Bates Hall and Issue Department catalogues; 56,504 in the Official catalogues; and 24,814 in the catalogues of the Special Libraries. Also 52,153 were sent to the Library of Congress and Harvard College Library, and to the compilers of various lists now in process of making, and printed cards for all new books were set aside as copy for the *Monthly Bulletin*. Under the new "rush" system, titles of new bound books were filed in the catalogues the day after their shelf-numbers were assigned.

Some falling off from last year in the number of cards printed (although the number of two years ago is still exceeded) is due to the process of reconditioning the Printing Department. Several large subdivisions are in process of recataloguing and reclassification, especially in the fields of United States history and science. Notice should also be made of the work done in response to various requests for aid from other libraries and from individuals, of which no definite record can be shown.

The Department continues to be handicapped by vacancies in several positions which are difficult to fill, as they require experts, who are not attracted by the salaries that can be offered. These vacancies have been partially balanced by the employment of several temporary and part-time assistants.

The completion of Stacks 5 and 6 of the Annex late in the year 1923 permitted a readjustment of the general collection of

books, which for a number of years had been overcrowded and subjected to unrelated changes. The Shelf Division, during the year just completed, has arranged the entire collection among the stacks, carefully plotting each shelf to secure an equitable division of space among the class groups.

The usual details relating to the work of the Catalogue and Shelf Department may be found on pages 66-68 of the Appendix.

PUBLICATIONS.

At the end of 1923 the *Quarterly Bulletin* and the *Weekly List of New Books*, which had been begun in 1908, were discontinued, and in their place there has been issued monthly during 1924, a *Bulletin of Recent Books*. This list is restricted to the titles of books which are believed to be of popular interest and which circulate without restriction. The dictionary arrangement of the *Quarterly Bulletin*, with entries under author, title and subject, has been continued. Twelve numbers, of 2,075 copies each, were published.

Other library publications of the year included the following:

Ten-Book Lists, nos. 105-109. Complete sets of these lists have also been assembled and bound, with title-page, subject index and lists of issues, giving names of the compilers, and placed on file in every department of the Central Library and in all the branches.

Brief Reading Lists, nos. 14 (3d edition), 25-31. The subjects were as follows: No. 14 (3d edition), one-act plays in English, 1900-1923, compiled by Michael J. Conroy, of the Bates Hall Reference Desk; no. 25 (Supplement), Health and Hygiene, prepared in connection with the New England Health Institute, May 4-10, 1924, by L. E. Taylor, of the Catalogue Department; no. 27, some Useful Reference Books of 1923, compiled by Frank H. Chase, Reference Librarian, in connection with his address at the January meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club; no. 28, Landmarks in Music, Boston, 1630-1924, prepared in connection with Boston Music Week, May 4-10, 1924, by Richard G. Appel; no. 29, Advertising,

compiled by Pierce E. Buckley, Custodian, Bates Hall Centre Desk; no. 30, (in press); no. 31, Operas; a Selected List of Scores, Librettos and Related Works, compiled by Richard G. Appel, of the Music Division.

In connection with the film-play, "The Ten Commandments," there was issued a short list of books on Egypt; its past civilization and present state, prepared by Mary A. Tenney, of the Catalogue Department.

A third edition was issued of Graded Lists of Books for Children's Reading, Grades III and IV, compiled by Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.

There was also reprinted a list entitled Fifty Educational Books of 1923, prepared by the Youngstown, O., Public Library, for the American Library Association.

Lists for Branch Use, prepared in the Branch Department, have been issued as follows: no. 1, One Hundred Books of Travel; no. 2, One Hundred Biographies; no. 3, Gardens and Gardening; no. 4, Guides to Reading; no. 4a, West Roxbury Book Review List; no. 5, Fifty Italian Books; no. 6, Citizenship List; no. 7, Modern Plays; no. 8, Recent Verse.

Library Life, the Staff Bulletin of the Library, published on the 15th of each month, the summer months excepted, entered upon its fourth year in October, with a reorganized staff of ten members, all of whom share in the collection and reporting of news, the preparation of copy, the reading of proof and the final make-up for publication, and one of whom is in turn Editor-in-Charge for each monthly issue.

The plan has been wholly successful and the paper has gained in liveliness and variety of interest; it is this year proving more useful than ever as a medium of expression for the life of the Library.

In connection with the course of lectures on the programs of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, planned by Mr. Appel of the Music Division in co-operation with the Extension Division of the State Board of Education, a program and reading list was issued for each lecture, which gave, with the program for the ensuing concert, a list of scores and works about the composers and their music in the possession of the Library. There were also

included lists of the existing recordings of music to be given, many of the records being used to illustrate the lectures.

It is noted with pleasure that the recording companies have presented to the Library such records, together with a number of other classic recordings, thus forming a basis of an unusual and valuable collection. The acceptance of these gifts — of the continuance of which we have the promise — carries an obligation to provide means whereby the records may be made available for individual study in the Music Division, as well as for illustration in the Lecture Hall. Recent and pending advances in reproductive methods give ground for hope that in the near future it will be possible to arrange for this in a manner entirely free from annoyance to other users of the Brown Collection. It is to be hoped that some music lover may be found who will appreciate these possibilities and enable the Library further to enhance the usefulness of Mr. Brown's noble gift.

A Guide to Serial Publications founded prior to 1918 and now or recently current in Boston, Cambridge and vicinity, compiled and edited by Thomas Johnston Homer; Part III, pages 192-288, Esp.-Int. inclusive, 1050 copies. Eighty-five libraries are represented, and Part III contains main entries from 3953 to 5797. Half of Part IV is in proof. The remaining material will be printed as soon and as continuously as it is possible for the copy to be prepared, but it is, meanwhile, accessible for use in the Barton Gallery of the Central Library.

Opportunities for Adult Education in Greater Boston. A list of free public lectures and public educational courses offered during the year 1924-25.

BATES HALL.

The main reference hall continues to be the busiest workroom in the Central Library. The total number of volumes from the various collections consulted in Bates Hall was 248,552, an increase of 393 over last year. These figures relate only to the use of books sent to Bates Hall from the stacks, for which call-slips were filed. No account can be kept of the use of the

large reference collection, numbering over 10,000 volumes, surrounding the walls of the hall itself.

The service of the Information Office has relieved Bates Hall from the stream of those who merely want to look up a single fact, but the absence of these inquirers is more than made up by the increasing number of students making use of the room for their own purposes, many of whom do not call for library books. Most of these students are quiet and can be accommodated, but the law students often become so boisterous in discussing the cases which they are studying that strong measures are sometimes necessary to muffle them. The presence of these students has had the effect of driving many persons who wish to study without interruption to the Barten Library. Following in the path into which other libraries have been forced, it may become necessary for this Library to exclude certain classes of students from Bates Hall, at least in the evening and on Sunday.

During the second week in January, for a considerable part of two days, there was standing room only in Bates Hall. The reference books proved to be such a magnet to those who were seeking the solutions to prize crossword puzzles that at one time 432 persons were counted in the room, although it has chairs for only 310. Those who could not find seats, all converted for the moment into earnest students, were clustered in swarms about the walls like bees in a flower-garden. There was a quiet buzzing, but no disorder. This earnestness was very destructive to the reference books and cost the Library three copies of Webster's "International Dictionary," to say nothing of extensive bindery repairs.

The correspondence of the Reference Department was unusually large during the year. Seven hundred and thirty-eight inquiries were received by mail and answered; of these sixty-nine came from the city of Boston, two hundred and eight from Massachusetts, and thirty from foreign countries, with England leading. Through many of these letters the work of the Library in adult education is extended over a wide field.

There have been four hundred and eighty-six changes in the reference collection during the year; one hundred and sixty-four new titles have been added and forty-six books have been re-

turned to the stacks as no longer useful. The losses of the year from the Hall have been larger than usual, amounting to two hundred and thirty-three volumes. The recovery of nine books missing in former years brings the net loss down to two hundred and twenty-four.

It is a pleasure to note the constructive work for the improvement of the card catalogue which is being carried on by the Card Division. The service of the Hall has, on the other hand, been impaired by the serious breakdown of the machinery in the stacks, which has caused unusual delay in the delivery of books. Readers have been patient and it is expected that the situation will soon begin to improve.

Conditions at the public catalogue are at present very crowded at certain seasons of the year. The substitution of high tables, at which users of the catalogue would stand, for the present form of table which is very wasteful of space, would help in relieving the congestion. Twice as many persons could use the catalogue if this change were made.

THE NEWSPAPER AND PATENT ROOMS.

The number of papers now regularly filed in the Newspaper Room is 276. During the past year seven papers have been added to the list and two have either ceased publication or have been consolidated with other papers. The bound volumes now number 8,995, an increase of 135 volumes since the last report. The newspaper files are constantly in use; 18,589 persons consulted 34,057 of the volumes of newspapers during the year, as compared with 18,654 persons who used 33,534 volumes during the preceding year. The files of many of the eighteenth century newspapers have been enlarged by photostat copies acquired from the Massachusetts Historical Society. Through the generosity of Mr. Franklin F. Rondy, of Boston, it was possible to complete the Library's file of the Boston Globe.

The total number of volumes in the patent collection now numbers 17,551, the increase for the year being 775 volumes. The countries represented in the accessions were the United States, Great Britain, France, Canada, Australia and New

Zealand. Negotiations have been opened with the German Patent Office to complete the Library's file of the Patentschriften, the receipt of which ceased in 1914. The recorded number of persons using the files of patents during the year was 18,495, as compared with 18,163 during the preceding year. The number of volumes consulted was 110,633, as compared with 107,868 volumes the year previous.

INFORMATION OFFICE, GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT SERVICE
AND OPEN SHELF ROOM.

The ready reference material of the Information Office continues to assist an increasing public. Tourists make use of the directories and telephone books; business men consult the current-events file and the Chamber of Commerce reports, for the business growth of other cities; those uncertain where to spend a vacation pore over the travel folders. In addition, information agencies maintained by banks, department stores and other institutions constantly refer inquiries to the Library.

Over a thousand clippings and pamphlets have been added during the year to the Vocational Information file, the basis of which is four hundred school and college catalogues. A duplicate set of the catalogues, arranged alphabetically by states, is kept on the shelves of the Information Office. Frequent requests are made for the following: art, secretarial work, business administration, accounting, opportunities for the handicapped, lists of employment agencies and material about evening and extension courses.

The United States Tariff Commission Reports and the Farmers' Bulletins are among the most popular of the government documents. Last year, in addition to the adult users, many school children consulted government material for debates on immigration, child labor, etc.

There has been a substantial increase in the circulation of the Open Shelf Room. Readers are encouraged to return Open Shelf Room books to the department, thus avoiding delay in getting them back into circulation. The taste of the public is carefully studied and all manner of alluring titles are set out to

tempt visitors. Memoirs, travel and plays are most popular, though every division has its adherents. The foreign fiction is eagerly sought. Recently several teachers in the high schools and colleges around Boston have recommended the collection of essays and plays to their pupils as "book report" reading. Retired professional men of the neighborhood use the books constantly. Housewives, who have little time for browsing in libraries, delight in the quick service of the Open Shelf Room.

The courtyard library service during lunch hours was an interesting and successful experiment last summer, and while it did not materially increase circulation, it pleased many people and justifies further trial. The chairs in the courtyard were invariably occupied by interested readers putting a portion of their lunch-hour time to good advantage.

PERIODICAL ROOM.

The figures for the year just closed show a gain in attendance and in the use of the bound and unbound numbers of the periodicals. The growth in use has been normal and consistent for a long period of years. If the rooms were larger and were equipped with more modern and convenient furniture there is no doubt that much greater use would be made of their facilities. The interest in the use of periodical literature is manifested by a comparison of material used in 1900 and 1924.

Periodicals used during 1900. Bound 17,267; unbound 16,409. Total 33,676.

Periodicals used during 1924. Bound 49,315; unbound 57,943. Total 107,258.

The aggregate number of persons making use of the room at certain hours in each of two successive years, and the number reported five years ago, are as follows:

ATTENDANCE.

AT THE HOURS	10		12		2		4		6		8		9.45	
	A.M.		M.		P.M.		P.M.		P.M.		P.M.		P.M.	
1920-1921	.	.	12,372	14,726	22,653	29,801	20,617	24,514	10,413					
1923-1924	.	.	15,233	17,416	29,172	35,841	22,416	26,531	13,340					
1924-1925	.	.	16,432	18,526	32,162	36,427	23,841	27,254	13,763					

The use of bound and unbound periodicals shows the following increase over last year:

BOUND FILES.

Bound volumes consulted during the year.	1923-1924	1924-1925
Day time (week-days)	46,724	49,315
Evening and Sunday	19,843	20,762

UNBOUND FILES.

Unbound periodicals consulted during the year:	1923-1924	1924-1925
Day time (week-days)	55,516	57,943
Evening and Sunday	24,572	25,882

The current periodicals, exclusive of those issued by the State and Federal governments, regularly filed for readers in the Periodical Rooms, number 1,226. In addition there are filed for use by readers in other departments 269 current periodicals especially relating to the fields covered by those departments, as follows:

Fine Arts Division and Music Room	135
Teachers' Reference and Children's Room	58
Statistical Department	49
Ordering Department	27
	<hr/>
	269
Periodical Rooms	1,226
	<hr/>
Total number of current periodicals	1,495

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

The Special Libraries include all the collections housed on the third floor of the Central Building, and comprise the following divisions:

Fine Arts Division. Books, plates, pamphlets and periodicals on the fine arts, including architecture and city planning, sculpture, painting, graphic arts, and the art crafts; the Codman collection on landscape architecture; material on pageants; and the Library's main collection of photographs, prints, art clippings and lantern slides.

Technology Division. Books on technology, including engineering in all its branches, manufactures, applied sciences, and works in the fields of pure physics and chemistry added since 1922; also the bound files of technical periodicals.

Music Division. The Allen A. Brown reference collection of music and literature of music; also a large collection of music for home use, musical and dramatic periodicals, indexes and scrap-books.

Barton-Ticknor Division. Twenty-three special collections restricted to use within the building, including Americana, Anti-Slavery and Civil War material, books on dramatic history, incunabula and publications of famous presses, works on mathematics, Shakespeariana, Spanish literature, books illustrating women's activities, etc. The Library's large collection of maps and the map catalogue are also to be found in this division.

Important changes in the arrangement of the Special Libraries are under consideration. There is great need of a large closed room in which to bring together the rarer books from all parts of the Library. The work of the Music Division is sadly hampered by the congested state of its present room and the necessity of shelving the circulating music in alcoves a long way off from the music room. The reading room for fine arts and technology is overcrowded and alcove space is immediately needed for enlarged open-shelf collections in these classes. Many more cabinets are needed for oversize books, portfolios, art photographs, and process prints for school circulation.

Any adequate rearrangement of the Special Libraries floor is conditional upon an enlargement of the building, furnishing added space for the storage of cabinets. Failing this, it will be necessary to sacrifice a considerable part of the West Gallery, space now devoted to art-school students, conferences and other special library services.

The Fine Arts Division has continued to build up its great collection, purchasing practically all the recent art books of any real value in any of the major languages and a considerable proportion of the very numerous collections of art reproductions issued in portfolio form. All of these accessions have been class-catalogued and shelf-listed, as described in previous reports. In the field of architecture the collection is one of the best in the world and the fulness of the collections in all art subjects puts the Fine Arts Division in the first rank of art libraries anywhere.

The Technology Division has maintained and improved all of the reference tools mentioned in the last report, but no large amount of new constructive work has been undertaken, because illness deprived the division of an assistant during several of the busiest months. Eight years of expert and systematized book selection and replacement, supplemented by scientific shelf classification and analytic class-cataloguing, have made this division a working collection of unique and increasing usefulness to workers and students throughout Greater Boston.

The Music Division received during the year a bequest of \$5,000 from the late Isabella Stewart Gardner, a collection of music by Massachusetts composers from the Massachusetts Federation of Music Clubs, and a collection of phonograph records from the Columbia Phonograph Company. The most important activity of the Assistant-in-charge, Mr. Appel, during the year has been a series of public lectures and piano recitals on the weekly programs of music of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, held in co-operation with the Extension Division of the State Board of Education, in the library lecture hall. Five exhibitions of music were arranged by the Division.

The Barton-Ticknor Division housing the Special Collections of the Library has drawn public attention to its treasures by a series of monthly exhibitions of manuscripts and rare editions of famous authors. For most of these exhibitions, the Assistant-in-charge, Dr. Haraszti, prepared critical descriptions which were published in Boston papers.

From February 1, 1924, to February 1, 1925, the department put on view fifty exhibitions. Of this number twenty-two were of books in the possession of the Library. Fifteen were loan exhibitions, only two of them consisting of books.

The number of books issued for home use from the Special Libraries during the year was 22,836, compared with 23,121 in 1923-1924. The circulation of the first eight months of the fiscal year showed an increase of two per cent over the same period in 1923-24. A decrease of seven per cent in the last four months as compared with the same period of the preceding year, is due to the breakdown of the book-carrier system and accounts for one and one-quarter per cent loss for the year.

During the year, 28,921 pictures and 5,746 lantern slides were issued for use outside the Library. The use of lantern slides shows a gain of three per cent over that of the preceding fiscal year. No comparison can be made for picture circulation figures, because in former years picture issue was estimated, not counted. The total number of photographs and process prints now available for study or circulation is estimated at 69,475, that of lantern slides, at 11,085.

WORK WITH CHILDREN.

The Library records show a direct home circulation of 1,402,015 children's books during the year, from the Central Library and branches, a gain of 81,738 volumes over 1923-24. Circulation of books issued to schools through the branches and the Central Deposit Collection is reported as 312,217, making a total circulation of 1,714,232 volumes classed as juvenile. While some of these books may have been issued to adults, the number is far more than offset by the known use by children of books on the adult classification. The percentage of juvenile circulation touches its highest point at the North End Branch, where it reaches 87.6 per cent, and its lowest, with 33 per cent, at West Roxbury, where the adult members of the community make extensive use of the public library resources. In 21 of the 31 branches the juvenile circulation is over 50 per cent of the total. In only two branches does it fall below 45 per cent.

The purchase of books to supply juvenile demands was generous, in relation to the entire appropriation for books. The number of juvenile books purchased was 33,850, at a cost of \$38,862.73. School demands for classroom deposits constitute a heavy drain upon the book stock of certain of the branch libraries. In one branch the circulation to schools reached 26,588 volumes, and in another 19,326 volumes. The question may well be asked whether the branch libraries can lend so many books on deposit and at the same time satisfactorily fill the needs of the children applying for books at the branch library buildings. The Supervisor of Work with Children has had the assistance of a committee composed of two branch librarians and the Chil-

dren's Librarian at the Central Library in the selection of new titles for purchase.

The use of juvenile books has been strengthened during the year by more personal service to the children who frequent different libraries. There has been a growing effort to know children by name and to establish better acquaintance with them, resulting in a more intelligent use of books, in increased sense of the friendly spirit of the library staff, and consequently more orderly conduct.

The Supervisor reports that while organized service to children in the branch libraries is still inchoate, since the institution is not able to attract trained children's librarians, the first definite step urged in her report of last year has been taken, namely: the adoption of a policy working toward the appointment of a competent children's librarian in each major branch.

The appointment of a suitably qualified children's librarian at the North End Branch during the year was a specially fortunate move, since over 87 per cent of the work there is with children, as has been stated, and since at times every member of the force is engaged in supplying their demands. The special worker brought to her position a trained and sympathetic understanding of children, an appreciation of literature and a strong sense of the social function of a library. In several other branches assistants especially suitable but not yet fully qualified as children's librarians have been added to the staff, to the noticeable advantage of the Library in each case.

Classes in children's literature have been regularly held for the benefit of untrained members of the library staff, upon whom falls the task of helping in children's rooms. Twenty assistants have received this instruction from the Supervisor and have shown ability to apply the lessons for the guidance and direction of readers.

The year in the Children's Department has been marked by a fine spirit of co-operation and loyalty on the part of the staff and by a growing perception of the aims and purpose of work with children as a whole.

Children's Rooms. The Children's Room at the Central Library has been greatly improved in appearance by painting and

by the removal of one of the circular stairways, which gave room for additional bookcases. It is now possible to place certain useful books close to the charging desk and to provide several cases of books for readers of intermediate school age, who often need the same guidance as the younger children.

Physical conditions have been improved at the Upham's Corner Branch, by the removal of the Children's Room from the unsatisfactory quarters in the ward room to the long unused swimming tank in the basement. This forms, in fact, a novel children's reading room. Lighting, ventilation and space are more abundantly provided than under the old arrangement and the disposition of the floor space permits better control of the children. Among the major branches the crowding of the Children's Room at South Boston is most serious, making any extension of the work there out of the question. As that part of the city affords great opportunities for growth, it is unfortunate that there seems to be no immediate prospect of a new independent library building.

Story Hour. Library story hours were held at 66 different places in the course of the year, the largest number of points yet touched in this way. The Supervisor reports that the work was planned on the same line as in other years, and that it met with the same response from children, librarians and teachers. That the stories have served to introduce to children books that they might not otherwise read is evident from the letter of one little girl, who writes as follows: "The nicest part about her stories is that they were just the stories we have seen again and again on the library shelves and never taken them out." Appreciation of the story telling in the schools has been expressed by many teachers and principals who open their doors at all times to the story tellers with a ready welcome and an assurance of hearty belief in this method of introducing books to children.

Summer visits to the Museum of Fine Arts, which are always fruitful in promoting friendships, were made by many of the children in charge of branch librarians. These events are made possible each year by invitation of the Museum, and are eagerly anticipated by those who have experienced the pleasure of previous trips.

Teachers' Room. This room grows increasingly to deserve its name. It serves not only a growing number of Boston teachers but many who come from outside the Metropolitan area for the Saturday-morning courses given in the different colleges. The shifting of emphasis on various educational methods shows the trend of current thought. The "Project Method" as a vital subject has given way to "Platoon Schools," to the "Dalton Plan" and to the "Junior High School." Material on educational measurements is in constant demand.

Publications. In addition to a third revision and expansion of the "Graded List for Boys and Girls," made in the autumn, the Children's Department contributed bibliographical work on two school lists, "A Course in Citizenship" and "Boston Reading Lists," School documents Nos. 10 and 11 for 1924, in both of which obligations to the Library are acknowledged by the compilers. Material progress has been made toward the completion of an "Approved List of Children's Books for Purchase in the Central Library and Branches."

Children's Book Week. Special exhibits of books and pictures, and addresses before different audiences marked this annual occasion. The Supervisor of Work with Children gave addresses as usual during the year, among which was the first radio talk aimed to give larger library publicity. It is noted as the entrance upon a new field of library work, one capable of great expansion.

Co-operation with Children's Museum. Exhibits of interesting and attractive material from the Children's Museum have been held at the Central Library and at the Tyler Street, South End and North End Branches during the year. The service is unfortunately limited because of the necessity of providing glass cases to house the various exhibits.

THE BRANCH SYSTEM.

The total interior floor space devoted to library uses in the thirty-one branches amounts to about $3\frac{1}{4}$ acres. Of these branches, 10 are in municipal buildings, 13 occupy rented quar-

ters and 8 have buildings owned by the Library. Entire buildings are occupied by 11 of the branches.

The subsidiary agencies served through the Branch Department include 58 fire-engine houses, 42 institutions of various types, and 199 schools, of which 13 are parochial schools. The total number of agencies through which the Library serves the public is 330, as compared with 320 a year ago. The number of volumes issued on borrowers' cards from the Central Library through the Branch Department was 117,089, as against 107,250 in 1923-24, and 111,070 in 1922-23. These figures show a gain of 9,839 volumes issued during last year as compared with the year previous. The proportion of unsuccessful calls for books was 51.5 per cent, the same as the year before. Of the total unsuccessful requests 57,256 were calls for fiction, as against 52,640 last year. Of the total number of volumes sent out from the Central Library through the branches 91,335 were taken directly from the shelves of the Branch Deposit Collection.

The total circulation of the Branch System for the fiscal year was 2,798,006 volumes, including books received from the Central Library, compared with 2,594,033 the year before, a gain in circulation of 203,973 volumes. Twenty-seven branches gained and four lost in circulation. The greatest gains were at Mattapan, Andrew Square, Warren Street, South Boston, Dorchester, Jeffries Point and Orient Heights; the losses were at Upham's Corner, Parker Hill, Tyler Street and Charlestown.

The number of volumes sent out from the Central Library on deposit to schools, institutions and other agencies was 46,414, as against 42,230 last year and 45,286 in 1922-23. The number of volumes sent to schools from the Central Library and branches was 59,216, compared with 60,913 last year. Of this number 19,393 were sent from the Branch Issue Division, Central Library, as compared with 17,392 the year before. The number of books issued on deposit from the branch libraries, chiefly to schools, was 39,823, compared with 43,521 the year before. The number of individual teachers supplied was 1,312, as against 1,391 in 1923-24.

The number of volumes acquired by purchase for branch use during the year was 54,381; of these 6,556 were placed in the

Branch Deposit Collection, and 47,825 were distributed among the thirty-one branches. These figures represent over eighty per cent of the total number of accessions by purchase for the entire library system, namely 66,483 volumes. The number of books bound for the branch libraries the past year was 26,319, as compared with 24,626 in 1923-24.

Buildings. The Allston, Dorchester, Mattapan, Parker Hill, Warren Street and South Boston Branches are in dire need of new quarters. Thirteen branches require extensive repairs and practically every branch needs new equipment of one kind or another. Lighting conditions in many of the branches have been justly criticised. In November last, the Supervisor was instructed to have a study of this subject prepared. A survey, including floor plans of every building, with what is considered adequate lighting marked on the plans, has been made and is now under consideration.

Unsatisfactory buildings and run-down or out-of-date equipment have in no wise daunted the librarians and staffs of the branches. By skilful rearrangement of furniture and careful supervision of heating, lighting, cleaning, and ventilation, the buildings have been made to serve their purpose to the limit of their capacity. At every one of these branches, the hope is cherished that the people of the neighborhood, appreciating good service under difficult conditions, will presently be awakened to the need for better buildings with proper equipment, and will take vigorous action to secure them.

The City Superintendent of Buildings in November allowed the use of the swimming tank in the Municipal Building in which the Upham's Corner Branch is located, for the use of a children's room. Tables and chairs were placed on the floor of the tank and book cases were placed along the walls of the galleries. The arrangement is in every way satisfactory and the tank room has proved admirably adapted for the purpose it is now called upon to fulfill.

Personnel. During the past year 16 persons have been in training at the West End, South Boston and East Boston branches. Of these 14 have been encouraged to continue in library work and 2 have been urged to try other employment.

To recommend for appointment a young person who during a period of several months manifests no aptitude for library service is as unfair to the young person as it is to the library. The candidate, however, is given every opportunity to prove her worth, and must appear obviously unfitted for library work before being advised to try something else.

Of the 14 encouraged to remain, 10 have already passed the general paper of the C grade examination, 8 have in addition passed the required language, and 4 have passed the promotional examination for second assistantship.

Committees. The committee work proves increasingly valuable. The Committee on Personal Service has presented to the Director a completed scheme for graded branch service and has co-operated in the revision of an important section of the Branch Code Book — "Registration, Fines and Penalties." The Committee on Book Selection has during the year recommended all titles for branch fiction purchased by the Library for branches. The Committee on Registration has followed up the procedure connected with checking up the Code Book. The Committee on Circulation and Publicity notes with satisfaction a net increase in circulation from the branches of 163,306 books during the past year. A new form of advertising has been introduced in libraries which have show windows on the street. There are nine such libraries, and the window space used prior to library occupation for displaying groceries or dry goods is now used for exhibits which advertise books. The Committee on Binding and Repairing reports splendid work throughout the whole system, particularly in the matter of recasing and in labeling the books with white ink.

As a piece of educational extension service, book-review talks have been planned and successfully carried out in Brighton and West Roxbury; in each case book-lists have been prepared by the Branch Catalogue Division. Posters have been prepared for all branches and these are changed the first day of each month. Special lists and also collections of books are displayed with the posters.

Notes from the reports of the branch librarians will be found on pages 78-86 of the Appendix.

LECTURES AND EXHIBITIONS.

The twenty-seventh free public library course offered seventy-one lectures, distributed as follows: travel 19, literature 15, music 14, art 8, nature (birds, gardens), biography and history, and civic subjects, 4 each. The attendance machine, which is a whole larger than usual, and at only a very few, took-output of the hall failed to be filled. In three cases it has been ^{eliminate} ^{glue} ^{antic} necessary to turn away large numbers from the doors, and one lecture had to be given three times. It has, unfortunately, been necessary to make a considerable number of substitutions at short notice, on account of the unavoidable absence of the listed lecturers.

In addition to the above course, the Ruskin Club held its bi-monthly meetings on Monday afternoons; various organizations held open meetings in the hall; the Community Service Incorporated, co-operating with the Public Celebrations Committee of the City, gave a Christmas pageant which was artistically and intrinsically worth while; and there were several concerts given during Music Week, under the auspices of the Boston Music Week Committee. The Division of University Extension arranged courses for every evening of the week, except Thursday, for several courses during the day, and for short courses on opera and in French. The innovation of the year was a course of lectures on the programs of the Symphony Orchestra, given in advance of the concert, which proved to be popular. The hall was used five hundred and twelve times in thirty-seven weeks.

There were several long exhibitions in the Fine Arts Exhibition Room and short ones shown in connection with lectures given in the free library course. Those that appealed most to the public were the original water-colors by Pedro Subercaseaux illustrating the life of St. Francis of Assisi; the Fifty Books of 1924 selected by the American Institute of Graphic Arts; the prize competition posters for the *House Beautiful*, and the reproductions of paintings by John Singer Sargent.

In the Barton-Ticknor Room there were monthly exhibitions of manuscripts, first editions and prints arranged in connection with birth-anniversaries of authors and anniversaries of historical events.

The lists of lectures and public exhibitions held at the Central Library from the fall of 1924 through the spring of 1925 may be found on pages 68-73 of the Appendix.

IN-HOUSE INSTRUCTION.

Being advised to try, the 14 encourages of experiment, plans for instruction of the paper of the carried on with a considerable degree of assurance. Four regular courses are now in progress, each of which contributes something definite to the equipment of those assistants who are able to attend them. Professor Robert E. Rogers, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is giving his fourth course in the Library, under the auspices of the Massachusetts Division of University Extension, to a large and interested class, in which twenty-six library employees are enrolled. His subject this year is the "Great Classics of Literature from the Earliest Days to the Renaissance." This course will probably be supplemented next year by a similar one covering the masterpieces of the past four centuries. Miss Eleanor M. Colleton is continuing her instruction in Italian to thirteen library employees who are making ready for an examination in that language. Miss Alice M. Jordan is giving a year-course in work with children to thirteen library assistants and Mr. Frank H. Chase is giving a course, also extending over the year, in general history for reference assistants, in which twenty-three are enrolled. The attempt is being made to give all of these courses solid value for library purposes and to hold the students down to specific assignments each week. The vision of a regular scheme of training for assistants in this Library is each year becoming clearer.

THE BINDERY AND PRINTING DEPARTMENTS.

Despite the fact that the Bindery has vacancies unfilled, the work accomplished during the year has been the largest in the history of the department. The total of bound volumes of all types was 45,994. In addition, 9,295 new volumes were re-cased before being put in circulation.

The purchase of an oversewing machine has more than justified its cost, by making possible an increased output with a diminished sewing force. To add further to the efficiency of the Bindery the following machinery is much needed: a roller backer to lessen the work of hand-backing, a rotary board shears for cutting board by power, a rounding machine, which is rendered quite necessary in order to handle the book-output of the over-sewing machine, and a gluing machine to eliminate gluing by hand in cover making. With these additions it is anticipated that the department can increase its output materially without adding to its staff.

In the Printing Department, as no considerable additions have been made to the plant since 1918 and no modernization since 1912, it became necessary, in order to maintain present-day standards of mechanical efficiency, to undertake extensive renewals. Their need was carefully studied during the summer and early fall and contracts were drawn and signed late in the year which admitted of distributing the cost of the changes through a series of appropriations. The first change to be affected under the plan consisted in the substitution for the old stop-cylinder press, which had done duty for twenty-nine years, of a modern and somewhat larger two-revolution press equipped with an automatic feeder; and of the addition of a similarly equipped folding machine. The installation was made just before the end of the fiscal year, and it is expected that further changes will be carried out during the year to come.

On page 68 of the Appendix will be found the usual statistics for the Bindery and Printing Departments.

RETIREMENTS.

During the fiscal year, the following persons were retired under the Boston Retirement System.

Catalogue and Shelf Department: Dora L. Cutler, cataloguer (retired February 29), entered service 1887; Ida W. Gould, cataloguer (retired August 31, voluntary), entered service 1884; William G. T. Roffe, first assistant in charge Shelf Department (retired February 29), entered service 1881; Mary

H. Rollins, editor of Library Publications (retired March 31, voluntary), entered service 1886. *Special Libraries Department*: Walter Rowlands, first assistant in charge of Fine Arts Division (retired January 31), entered service 1901. *Engineer and Janitor Department*: Henry Niederauer, Chief Engineer (retired February 29), entered service 1894; Walter M. Leighton, night watchman (retired March 31, disability), entered service 1911. *Bindery Department*: Zenobia Felton, sewer (retired December 31), entered service 1909; Therese A. Masterson, assistant (retired April 31, disability), entered service 1907; John F. Murphy, forwarder (retired July 31, disability), entered service 1883; Ellen F. Potts, forewoman (retired December 31, voluntary), entered service 1892; William A. Wendall, forwarder (retired July 31, voluntary), entered service 1909. *Fellows Athenaeum Branch*: Sarah W. Griggs, assistant (retired December 31), entered service 1886.

With regret is noted the death while in service, on April 5, 1924, of Alice M. Morris, sewer, of the Bindery Department, employed since 1909.

CONCLUSION.

There is no limit to the benefits which a free public library, adequately supported, can render to the community which it serves through the rich stores of information, entertainment and inspiration available in the books upon its shelves. Under wise management its public service is restricted only by the amount of its funds — the funds necessary for the purchase of books, for their housing and proper care, for the making of catalogues, indexes and other bibliographic aids in their use, and for attracting to its staff men and women whose training and experience have equipped them for giving to the public the widest and wisest assistance in making use of library material.

If, finally, the Library is to function more fully in its aid to young men and women, no longer in school, and to adults who wish to broaden their knowledge and culture through systematic reading, means must be found for the employment of specially trained advisers who will give wise and sympathetic help to in-

dividual students and will otherwise aid in the development of that work of adult education which is the outstanding task now confronting this institution, with the other public libraries of America.

It is with satisfaction that I record my acknowledgment of the faithful service rendered by the officials of the Library and the employees generally, and my appreciation of their loyal and efficient co-operation throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES F. D. BELDEN,
Director.

APPENDIX.

TABLES OF CENTRAL AND BRANCH CIRCULATION.

	1919-20	1920-21	1921-22	1922-23	1923-24	1924-25
Central Library .	507,038	551,190	591,640	590,655	576,997	623,024
BRANCHES:						
Allston . .	43,492	41,369	47,328	53,598	57,705	60,358
Andrew Square	29,726	30,761	33,944	33,413	51,991	68,196
Boylston Station	40,758	44,829	50,033	55,672	62,340	64,871
Brighton . .	71,720	75,273	79,397	83,238	87,672	92,702
Charlestown .	80,900	91,455	98,780	101,140	99,035	98,433
City Point .	33,784	34,510	30,300	38,381	43,277	47,441
Codman Square	85,246	91,721	101,792	103,810	113,529	114,950
Dorchester .	68,173	68,873	70,396	67,810	75,608	88,628
Dor. Lower Mills	18,308	18,040	17,765	17,577	25,801	27,259
East Boston .	115,062	111,813	120,234	120,993	125,968	128,771
Faneuil . .	22,626	24,001	24,913	24,944	27,004	30,443
*Fellowes Athen.	74,024	80,469	80,933	79,125	71,673	76,007
Hyde Park .	78,444	79,592	80,855	82,498	89,716	95,334
Jamaica Plain .	55,771	58,228	60,507	59,970	64,022	68,630
Jeffries Point .	.....	.....	10,309	35,925	40,857	52,020
Mattapan . .	16,351	16,439	20,499	20,497	27,699	48,789
Mount Bowdoin	68,177	73,620	80,492	83,376	98,961	107,679
Mount Pleasant	48,098	49,949	57,562	53,846	52,977	53,953
Neponset . .	19,433	22,630	28,789	33,262	40,353	41,466
North End . .	59,676	69,846	85,187	96,359	107,329	117,075
Orient Heights .	21,133	21,934	27,970	34,240	30,580	40,605
Parker Hill .	52,846	48,891	49,209	49,459	44,081	37,038
Roslindale . .	66,798	73,310	80,879	82,597	89,336	94,888
Roxbury Crossing	43,232	47,030	57,609	55,911	57,869	67,143
South Boston .	100,602	104,979	121,194	124,809	139,173	152,799
South End . .	94,386	99,751	97,403	99,543	111,682	117,845
Tyler Street .	15,587	31,343	40,039	39,973	42,270	37,321
Upham's Corner	111,186	113,846	119,375	120,257	109,731	95,975
Warren Street .	88,720	94,991	104,412	108,665	122,159	136,981
West End . .	114,162	123,137	136,431	142,470	154,267	157,321
West Roxbury .	55,273	54,956	66,470	74,970	81,199	88,249
Total . .	2,300,732	2,448,776	2,672,646	2,768,984	2,922,861	3,132,194

* Roxbury Branch renamed Fellowes Athenaeum Branch in 1923.

The net gains and losses in circulation are presented, apart from the totals, in the following form:

	VOLUMES.
1919-20 gain over preceding year	272,679
1920-21 gain over preceding year	148,044
1921-22 gain over preceding year	223,870
1922-23 gain over preceding year	96,338
1923-24 gain over preceding year	153,877
1924-25 gain over preceding year	209,333

USE OF BOOKS.

CIRCULATION FROM CENTRAL BY MONTHS.

	HOME USE DIRECT.	HOME USE THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	TOTALS.
February, 1924	35,125	13,611	15,551	64,287
March, "	34,823	12,690	18,860	66,373
April, "	33,766	12,427	20,280	66,473
May, "	28,136	9,578	19,750	57,464
June, "	24,649	8,041	19,640	52,330
July, "	18,187	5,891	5,323	29,401
August, "	19,641	6,033	4,465	30,139
September, "	19,440	5,764	4,475	29,679
October, "	25,848	7,918	11,310	45,076
November, "	33,375	12,295	15,175	60,845
December, "	32,099	12,405	17,933	62,437
January, 1925	29,099	10,436	18,985	58,520
Totals	334,188	117,089	171,747	623,024

DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CIRCULATION.

CENTRAL LIBRARY:	HOME USE.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.	TOTAL.
a. Direct	334,188		
b. Through Branches	117,089		
c. Schools and Institutions through Branch Department		171,747	623,024
BRANCHES:			
Allston	60,358	....	60,358
Andrew Square	68,196	....	68,196
Boylston Station	64,141	730	64,871
Brighton	54,679	38,023	92,702
Charlestown	86,832	11,601	98,433
City Point	47,441	....	47,441
Codman Square	106,599	8,351	114,950
Dorchester	71,759	16,869	88,628
Dorchester Lower Mills	27,162	97	27,259
East Boston	109,666	19,105	128,771
Carried forward	696,833	94,776	791,609

	HOME USE.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.	TOTAL.
<i>Brought forward</i>	696,833	94,776	791,609
Faneuil	30,443	.....	30,443
Fellowes Athenaeum	60,048	15,959	76,007
Hyde Park	85,017	10,317	95,334
Jamaica Plain	57,970	10,660	68,630
Jeffries Point	52,020	.....	52,020
Mattapan	48,789	.....	48,789
Mount Bowdoin	105,243	2,436	107,679
Mount Pleasant	53,953	.....	53,953
Neponset	41,466	.....	41,466
North End	115,396	1,679	117,075
Orient Heights	40,337	268	40,605
Parker Hill	37,038	.....	37,038
Roslindale	86,238	8,650	94,888
Roxbury Crossing	66,383	760	67,143
South Boston	132,573	20,226	152,799
South End	100,677	17,168	117,845
Tyler Street	37,261	60	37,321
Upham's Corner	92,812	3,163	95,975
Warren Street	133,494	3,487	136,981
West End	138,137	19,184	157,321
West Roxbury	71,649	16,600	88,249
	<hr/> 2,283,777	<hr/> 225,393	<hr/> 2,509,170

These figures are condensed into the following:

*Books Lent for Home Use, including Circulation through
Schools and Institutions.*

From Central Library (including Central Library books issued through the Branches)	623,024
From Branches (excluding books received from Central Library)	2,509,170
Total	<hr/> 3,132,194

COMPARATIVE.	1923-24.	1924-25.
Central Library circulation (excluding schools and institutions):		
Direct home use	328,828	334,188
Through Branches	107,250	117,089
	<hr/> 436,078	<hr/> 451,277
Branch Department circulation (ex- cluding schools and institutions):		
Direct home use	2,135,699	2,283,777
Schools and institutions circulation (in- cluding books from Central through the Branch system)	351,084	397,140
	<hr/> 2,922,861	<hr/> 3,132,194

Under the inter-library loan system with other libraries the following use of books for the purpose of serious research is shown for two successive years:

	1923-24.	1924-25.
Volumes lent from this Library to other libraries in Massachusetts	1,596	1,770
Lent to libraries outside of Massachusetts	246	257
Totals	<u>1,842</u>	<u>2,027</u>
Applications refused:		
From libraries in Massachusetts	462	342
From libraries outside of Massachusetts	92	82
Totals	<u>554</u>	<u>424</u>
Borrowed from other libraries for use here	35	20

The classified "home-use" circulation of the branches was as follows, for two successive years:

	1923-24.		1924-25.	
	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.
Fiction for adults	665,125	31.2	713,320	31
Non-fiction for adults	218,105	10.2	260,051	11
Juvenile fiction	769,182	36.1	841,116	37
Juvenile non-fiction	477,813	22.4	488,310	21

At the Central Library the classified "home-use" circulation shows the following percentages:

	1923-24	1924-25
	PERCENTAGES.	PERCENTAGES.
Fiction	47.9	48.3
Non-fiction	52.1	51.7

BOOK ACCESSIONS.

BOOKS ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE.

	1923-24.	1924-25.
For the Central Library:		
From City appropriation	6,805	8,328
From trust funds income	4,032	3,774
	<u>10,837</u>	<u>12,102</u>
For branches:		
From City appropriation	50,147	54,289
From trust funds income	4	92
	<u>50,151</u>	<u>54,381</u>
By Fellowes Athenaeum (for Fellowes Athenaeum Branch)	1,178	832
Totals	<u>62,166</u>	<u>67,315</u>

Of the 842 volumes acquired by the Fellowes Athenaeum during the past year, 832 were purchases, 8 were gifts, and 2 were of periodicals bound.

The following statement includes the accessions by purchase combined with books received by gift or otherwise:

	CENTRAL.	BRANCHES.	TOTAL VOLUMES.
Accessions by purchase (including 832 volumes by Fellowes Athenaeum)	12,102	55,213	67,315
Accessions by gift (including 8 volumes for Fellowes Athenaeum)	10,024	1,807	11,831
Accessions by Statistical Department	172	. . . .	172
Accessions by exchange	54	. . . .	54
Accessions by periodicals bound (including 2 for Fellowes Athenaeum)	2,062	139	2,201
Accessions of newspapers bound	114	. . . .	114
	<hr/> 24,528	<hr/> 57,159	<hr/> 81,687

THE CATALOGUE.

	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.
	1923-24.		1924-25.	
Catalogued (new):				
Central Library Catalogue	22,172	14,471	24,135	13,608
Serials	4,528	. . . .	4,685	. . . .
Branches	48,616	42,113	53,301	44,321
Recatalogued	14,791	7,709	19,007	15,891
Totals	<hr/> 90,107	<hr/> 64,293	<hr/> 101,128	<hr/> 73,820

SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes shelved and thus made available for public use, taken from the report of the Shelf Department, is

Placed on the Central Library shelves during the year:		
General collection, new books (including continuations)		22,962
Special collections, new books and transfers		1,800
Books reported lost or missing in previous years, but now found, transfers from branches, etc.		2,084
		<hr/> 26,846
Removed from Central Library shelves during the year:		
Books reported lost or missing, condemned copies not yet replaced, trans- fers, etc.		13,887
Net gain, Central Library		12,959
Net gain at branches		12,264
Net gain, entire library system		<hr/> 25,223

The total number of volumes available for public use at the end of each year since the formation of the Library is shown in the following statement:

1852-53	9,688	1889	520,508
1853-54	16,221	1890	536,027
1854-55	22,617	1891	556,283
1855-56	28,080	1892	576,237
1856-57	34,896	1893	597,152
1857-58	70,851	1894	610,375
1858-59	78,043	1895	628,297
1859-60	85,031	1896-97	663,763
1860-61	97,386	1897-98	698,888
1861-62	105,034	1898-99	716,050
1862-63	110,563	1899-1900	746,383
1863-64	116,934	1900-01	781,377
1864-65	123,016	1901-02	812,264
1865-66	130,678	1902-03	835,904
1866-67	136,080	1903-04	848,884
1867-68	144,092	1904-05	871,050
1868-69	152,796	1905-06	878,933
1869-70	160,573	1906-07	903,349
1870-71	179,250	1907-08	922,348
1871-72	192,958	1908-09	941,024
1872-73	209,456	1909-10	961,522
1873-74	260,550	1910-11	987,268
1874-75	276,918	1911-12	1,006,717
1875-76	297,873	1912-13	1,049,011
1876-77	312,010	1913-14	1,067,103
1877-78	345,734	1914-15	1,098,702
1878-79	360,963	1915-16	1,121,747
1879-80	377,225	1916-17	1,139,682
1880-81	390,982	1917-18	1,157,326
1881-82	404,221	1918-19	1,173,695
1882-83	422,116	1919-20	1,197,498
1883-84	438,594	1920-21	1,224,510
1884-85	453,947	1921-22	1,258,211
1885	460,993	1922-23	1,284,094
1886	479,421	1923-24	1,308,041
1887	492,956	1924-25	1,333,264
1888	505,872		
Volumes in entire library system			1,333,264
Volumes in the branches			346,863

These volumes are located as follows:

Central Library	986,401	Dorchester Lower Mills	2,226
Allston	4,745	East Boston	21,074
Andrew Square	4,854	Faneuil	4,634
Boylston Station	5,287	Fellows Athenaeum	36,370
Brighton	18,320	Hyde Park	33,447
Charlestown	14,356	Jamaica Plain	17,589
City Point	7,219	Jeffries Point	3,089
Codman Square	9,119	Mattapan	3,331
Dorchester	14,251	Mount Bowdoin	8,670

Mount Pleasant . . .	5,827	South Boston . . .	18,739
Neponset . . .	3,590	South End . . .	13,955
North End . . .	10,449	Tyler Street . . .	5,086
Orient Heights . . .	4,136	Upham's Corner . . .	13,063
Parker Hill . . .	3,338	Warren Street . . .	9,454
Roslindale . . .	10,752	West End . . .	20,102
Roxbury Crossing . . .	5,809	West Roxbury . . .	13,982

THE BINDERY.

	1923-24.	1924-25.
Number of volumes bound in various styles	52,483	55,289
Magazines stitched	237	216
Volumes repaired	2,245	3,046
Volumes guarded	1,941	1,312
Maps mounted	65	35
Photographs and engravings, etc., mounted	3,295	3,019
Library publications folded, stitched and trimmed	157,161	75,278

THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

	1923-24.	1924-25.
Requisitions received and filled	294	181
Card Catalogue (Central Library):		
Titles exclusive of automatic reprint	13,962	16,470
Cards finished (exclusive of extras)	203,109	188,328
Card Catalogue (Branches):		
Titles (Printing Department count)	704	696
Cards finished (exclusive of extras)	41,536	31,218
Signs	2,518	3,862
Blank forms (numbered series)	3,751,465	4,016,630
Forms, circulars and sundries (outside numbered series)	83,446	80,225
Catalogues and pamphlets	157,691	51,750

THE LECTURES OF 1924-1925.

All lectures, except those marked with an asterisk (*) were illustrated with lantern slides.

1924

- Oct. 6. *Our Selves and Our Ideals. Miss Lilian Whiting. (Ruskin Club.)
- Oct. 9. Friendly Visiting with the Birds. Rev. Manly Bacon Townsend.
- Oct. 12. *The Origin of Species in Modern Poetry. Grant H. Code. (New England Poetry Club Course.)
- Oct. 16. Alaska: the Promised Land. Mrs. Alice Howland Macomber.

- Oct. 19. *Recent American Folk Plays: "Sun-Up," "Hell-Bent for Heaven," etc. Robert E. Rogers, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Oct. 23. The Nipponese: a Story of Present Day Japan. John C. Bowker, F.R.G.S.
- Oct. 26. Historic Wales: its People and its Scenery. Mrs. Nellie E. Packard.
- Oct. 27. The National Parks of the United States. Kenneth Damren. (Ruskin Club.)
- Oct. 30. Wordsworth and the Lake Country. Everett L. Getchell.
- Nov. 1. *The Requirements of the Great Poet. Charles Hammond Gibson. (American Literary Association.)
- Nov. 2. *Tragedy and Comedy of Charles Dickens. Francis Henry Wade, M.D.
- Nov. 6. A Rocky Mountain Hike: Nine Thousand Miles through the Beauty and Bigness of America. Rev. Charles W. Casson. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
Repeated by request on Jan. 8 and Feb. 15, at eight o'clock.
- Nov. 9. *The Enjoyment of Art. Walter Sargent.
- Nov. 9. *The Ancestral Name, Ranulf. William A. Randall.
- Nov. 10. *The British Poets from the Seventeenth to the Nineteenth Century. Charles Hammond Gibson. (Ruskin Club.)
- Nov. 13. The Anniversary of Robert Louis Stevenson. Guy Richardson.
- Nov. 16. *Reading of Shakespeare's "Hamlet." George F. Pearson.
- Nov. 20. The Glory of England: Her Cathedrals and Scenic Beauty. Frederick Parsons, F.R.S.A.
- Nov. 22. *The Song Recital. Henry Gideon, A.M.
- Nov. 23. *Reading of Shakespeare's "King Henry IV, Part II." By members of local Shakespeare Clubs, under the direction of Mrs. Frederick H. Briggs. (Drama League Course.)
- Nov. 24. *Ruskin's Museums. Mrs. May Smith Dean. (Ruskin Club.)
- Nov. 30. *A Modern Opera: Pfitzner's "Palestrina." Otto G. T. Straub.
- Nov. 30. The Pueblo Indians: Yesterday and To-day. George H. Browne.
- Dec. 4. Florence: the City of the Lily. Martha A. S. Shannon.
- Dec. 7. Public Celebrations. J. Philip O'Connell.
- Dec. 7. *Music of the Roman Catholic Church. Henry Gideon, A.M.
- Dec. 8. *Ruskin's Message to Youth and the Twentieth Amendment. Rev. Davis Wasgatt Clark. (Ruskin Club.)
- Dec. 11. Days with the Birds. Mrs. James L. Tryon. (Field and Forest Club Course.)

- Dec. 13. *The Growth of Freedom in English Verse Technique. Helen Archibald Clarke. (American Literary Association.)
- Dec. 14. *Music in the Life of the World: Story of the Carol. Mme. Beale Morey.
- Dec. 15. *Christmas in Music and Pageantry. Richard G. Appel.
- Dec. 18. How the Dutch do it: Housing Problems and Port Development. Frank A. Bourne, S.M., A.I.A.
- Dec. 20. *The Nativity Cycle of York Mystery Plays. Public Celebrations Committee and Boston Community Service, Inc.
- Dec. 21. *Carols and Chansons of Christmas. Henry Gideon, A.M.
- Dec. 21. *Reading: "The Christmas Carol." Walter Bradley Tripp. (Auspices Dickens Fellowship.)
- Dec. 22. *Music, arranged by Mrs. Arthur Howard Davison. The Christmas Message, Mrs. Minnie Meserve Soule. (Ruskin Club.)
- Dec. 28. Boston Architecture: Past and Present. Frank Chouteau Brown.

1925

- Jan. 4. *The Marvel and Glory of Glass; Ancient and Modern. Mrs. Walter G. Dennison.
- Jan. 8. A Rocky Mountain Hike: Nine Thousand Miles through the Beauty and Bigness of America. Rev. Charles W. Casson. (Repeated by request.)
- Jan. 11. *Swedish Male Harmony Chorus. Carl Hulton, Director.
- Jan. 12. *What's What in Books. John Clair Minot. (Ruskin Club.)
- Jan. 15. Mediaeval Pilgrimages and Art. Arthur Kingsley Porter, B.F.A.
- Jan. 17. *The Immutable Laws of Great Poetry. E. Charlton Black, LL.D. (American Literary Association.)
- Jan. 18. The Appreciation of Greek Sculpture. Clarence Kennedy, A.M.
- Jan. 22. Cycling through Merrie England in Pre-War Days. Arthur D. Ropes.
- Jan. 25. Our New Comedy and American Family Life. Albert Hatton Gilmer, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Jan. 26. The Wonderland of America. Mrs. Arthur Dudley Ropes. (Ruskin Club.)
- Jan. 29. Snaring Bird Songs. Charles C. Gorst.
- Feb. 1. *A Splendid Rebel: Life and Times of Patrick Henry. Henry Lawrence Southwick.
- Feb. 5. Peasant and Decorative Arts of Czecho-Slovakia. Dr. Boris Morkovin.
- Feb. 8. *New New England Poets. Thomas A. Watson. (New England Poetry Club Course.)

- Feb. 9. *Anniversary Observance of John Ruskin's Birth. Rev. Harold E. B. Speight. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 11. *The String Quartet as a Musical Form. Leo R. Lewis.
- Feb. 12. The Land of the Backward Rolling River: Chekiang Province, including its Capital, Hangchow, the Heavenly. William Dean Goddard, A.M. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Feb. 15. *Modern French Music. Edward Burlingame Hill.
- Feb. 15. A Rocky Mountain Hike: Nine Thousand Miles through the Beauty and Bigness of America. Rev. Charles W. Casson. (Repeated by request.)
- Feb. 16. *Americanization: its Ideals. Two addresses: The Value of Law and its Observance. Hon. Sanford Bates. The Development of the True Citizen. Dr. Charles A. Coburn. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 19. Under Italian skies. Mrs. Arthur D. Ropes.
- Feb. 22. *Worthwhile Patriotism. Hon. Michael J. Murray.
- Feb. 26. Whaling and its Methods. Arthur E. Watson.
- Mar. 1. Boston, the Convention City. Charles J. Fox.
- Mar. 1. *The Program of the Flonzaley Quartet. Leo R. Lewis.
- Mar. 5. Killarney: its Lakes and Legends. Rev. William M. Stinson, S.J.
- Mar. 8. *Treasures of the Theatre Collection in the Harvard University Library. Frank W. C. Hersey, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Mar. 9. Days of Romance in Old Spain. Mrs. James Frederick Hopkins. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 12. Tramps about the Presidentials. Milton E. MacGregor. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Mar. 15. *The Magic of Words. Horace G. Wadlin, Litt.D.
- Mar. 15. The Art of Printing as shown in Fifty Books of 1924. John Coolidge Hurd.
- Mar. 19. Earth Changes, illustrated by the Geology of Boston. Harvey Woodburn Shimer, Ph.D.
- Mar. 22. Palestine: the Homeland of the Master. Anton Hanania.
- Mar. 23. *The Value of Critical Literature. Mr. Henry A. Higgins. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 26. Along Dutch Waterways. Mrs. James Frederick Hopkins.
- Mar. 29. *The Music of the Bible. Charles N. Lanphere.
- Apr. 2. New England Birds and Wild Flowers. Mrs. Harriet U. Goode.
- Apr. 5. *Footlight Orchestra. Thompson Stone, Director.
- Apr. 9. English Gardens. Robert N. Cram, B.L.A.
- Apr. 12. *Brahm's Requiem: an exposition. Leo R. Lewis.

- Apr. 13. Ruskin and Agriculture Today. Dr. Arthur H. Gilbert.
(Ruskin Club.)
- Apr. 16. Architecture in the United States in the last Ten Years. J.
Randolph Coolidge, Jr.
- Apr. 19. The Lexington and Concord Fights. Thomas G. Frothing-
ham.
- Apr. 27. Author's Reading. Rev. Henry Hallam Saunderson, D.D.
(Ruskin Club.)
- May 7. "The Triumph of Religion," a lecture on the decorations by
John Singer Sargent in the Public Library. Dr. Henry
Hallam Saunderson.
- May 7. *Lincoln House Orchestra. Jacques Hoffman, Conductor.
- May 10. *Concert by Myrtle Jordan. Carl Safford, accompanist.
- May 10. *Peabody House Orchestra. Russell Cook, Conductor.
- May 11. *Annual Meeting of the Ruskin Club.
- May 14. "The Triumph of Religion." Rev. Henry Hallam Saun-
derson. (Repeated by request.)

PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS, 1924-1925.

1924

- May Robert Browning. First editions and manuscripts.
Landmarks in Music, 1630-1924.
Famous bridges.
Recent accessions in fine arts.
Victor Herbert, 1859-1924.
- June Bunker Hill. Manuscripts, etc.
Foreign travel posters.
Evolution of church music.
Old Boston and Massachusetts.
Junior Red Cross poster competition.
- July Tennyson centenary. Manuscripts and first editions.
Old Boston and Massachusetts.
- Aug. Civil War pictures.
William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge.
- Sept. History of the art of printing.
- Oct. Wordsworth, Coleridge and Stevenson.
Recent accessions on decorative art.
Columbus Day. Books and portraits.
Alaska.
Japan.
Wales.
- Nov. Robert Louis Stevenson. First editions.
Illuminated manuscripts.
Original etchings by Anton Schutz.

- English cathedrals and abbeys.
Artistic bookbindings.
- Dec. Puvis de Chavannes.
American Indians. Curtis photographs.
American Indians. McClintock photographs.
Fragments of European architecture. Water-colors by F. A. Bourne.
Life of St. Francis of Assisi. Original water-colors by Subercaseaux.
- Jan. Edgar Allan Poe. Manuscripts and first editions.
Life of St. Joan of Arc.
Greek sculpture. Photographs by Prof. Clarence Kennedy.
Portolan Atlas.
- Feb. Photographs of stage settings, loaned by the Theatre Arts Magazine.
Charles Dickens. First editions and manuscripts.
Portolan Atlas.
Henry W. Longfellow. First editions and manuscripts.
Photographs of Shakespearian Costume Ball.
"House Beautiful" Cover designs, loaned by the House Beautiful Publishing Company.
- Mar. Medici and Seeman color prints.
"Fifty Books of 1924," selected by American Institute of Graphic Arts, and exhibited by Society of Printers of Boston.
- Apr. Nathaniel Bowditch memorial exhibition.
"Be Kind to Animals Week" prize posters.
Battle of Lexington. Manuscripts and prints.
John Singer Sargent memorial exhibition.
- May Old-Time baseball players (McGreevy Collection).
Examples of the work of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood.
William Ellery Channing.

SELECTED LIST OF GIFTS AND GIVERS.

- The American Printer, New York City. Thirty photographs, color prints, etc., contributed to the Franklin Bi-Centennial Number of The American Printer.
- Bassett, Abbot, Newtonville. Fifty-five volumes, publications of the League of American Wheelmen.
- The Bibliophile Society, through Mr. H. H. Harper. "The Yankee abroad." Unpublished poem, by Eugene Field, reproduced in manuscript facsimile following the printed version, and two volumes of the Annual Report of the Bibliophile Society to complete the Library file, 1920, 1923.

- Boston Society of Civil Engineers. *Engineering News*, 1877-1884, 1887. (Lacking in the Library file); Boydell's illustrations of the dramatic works of Shakespeare, London (1798) and Ancient carriages, containing 25 plates.
- Bradford, Gamaliel, Wellesley Hills. *The soul of Samuel Pepys*. By Gamaliel Bradford. Boston. 1924.
- Bare souls. By Gamaliel Bradford. New York. 1924.
- British Museum, London. *The Lindisfarne Gospels* . . . Three plates in colour and thirty-six in monochrome from Cotton MS. Nero D. IV in the British Museum, with pages from two related manuscripts. With introduction by Eric George Millar. London. 1923.
- Chandburi, Prince of, Bangkok, Siam. *Commentaries of Buddhakosa*. Series of Buddhist Scriptures, translated into the Pali language and printed in Siamese characters, in commemoration of the crematory obsequies of Her Majesty, the late Queen-Mother. 15 v.
- Chelminski, Jan V., New York City. *L'Armée du Duché de Varsovie*. Par Jan V. Chelminski. Texte par le Commandant A. Malibran. Paris. 1913. Portraits. Plates, mostly colored.
- Committee of the Irish National War Memorial, Dublin, Ireland. *Ireland's Memorial Records*. 1914-18. Being the names of Irishmen who fell in the Great European War. With decorative borders by Harry Clarke. Dublin. 1923. Privately printed. 8 v., folio.
- Cooch, Mrs. J. Wilkins, Pocomoke, Md. *Ancestry and descendants of Nancy Allyn (Foote) Webb, Rev. Edward Webb and Joseph Wilkins Cooch*. By Mary Evarts (Webb) Cooch. Wilmington. 1919.
- Cutter, Leonard F., Charlestown. *A file of the Waverley Magazine from Vol I, 1850, to 1890, with some omissions*. This gift has made the Library file very nearly complete.
- Daughters of the American Revolution. National Society. *Manual of the United States*. For the information of immigrants and foreigners. Published by the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution. Compiled by Elizabeth C. B. Buel. Washington. 1923. Fifty copies each of English, Russian, Italian, French, German, Hungarian, Spanish, Polish and Yiddish manuals.
- Davis, Walter G., Portland, Me. *The ancestry of Lydia Harmon, 1755-1836, wife of Joseph Waterhouse of Standish, Maine*. By Walter Goodwin Davis. Boston. 1924.
- The Dickens Society of West Roxbury, through Mrs. Lawrence Baker. *The letters of Charles Dickens, 1833 to 1870*. London. 1909.
- Evans, Richard T., Tientsin, China. *American trade-marks, trade-names, copyrights and patents in China*. By Robert T. Bryan, Jr. Shanghai. (1924.)
- Farrer, Sir Thomas Cecil, 2d Lord Farrer, Dorking, England. Some

- Farrer memorials. Being a selection from the papers of Thomas Henry, first Lord Farrer, 1819-1899. Made by his son, Thomas Cecil, second Lord Farrer. London. 1923. Privately printed.
- Fearing, Mrs. Harriet. Twenty-five volumes, including *The Chesapeake Bay Country*. By Swepson Earle. Baltimore. 1923; *Colmar en France*. Par Carlos Fischer; *Cent dix aquarelles, eaux-fortes et dessins* by Hansi. Paris. 1923; *Nouvelle histoire de France*. Par Albert Malet. Paris. 1922; *The Inns of the Middle Ages*, by W. C. Firebaugh. Chicago. 1924; *Petit Larousse*, 1923 edition, and *The Highland Clans of Scotland*, by George Eyre-Todd.
- Ford, Worthington C. Twenty-five photostat copies of broadsides of the Revolutionary period, proclamations, epitaphs, etc.
- Goodowsky, Hyman, Estate of, through Barnard Goodowsky and Charles Shulman, executors. Three hundred and fifty-four volumes and 64 numbers of periodicals in Hebrew. A collection of Hebrew literature, including treatises and commentaries on the Old Testament, essays and sermons on the Talmud and on the Prophets.
- Great Britain, Patent Office, London. Specifications of inventions, 122 volumes.
- Hale, Philip. Five volumes of music for flute, harp, violin, etc. For the Allen A. Brown Music Library.
- Harper, Henry Howard. *The Devil's Nest*. (A novel.) By Henry Howard Harper. With etched frontispiece by W. H. W. Bicknell. No. 31 of 100 copies. Cedar Rapids. (1923.); Library essays about books, bibliophiles, writers and kindred subjects. By Henry Howard Harper. Boston. 1924.
- Hazard, Miss Caroline, Peacedale, R. I. *South Country studies of some Eighteenth Century persons, places and conditions, in that portion of Rhode Island, called Narragansett*. By Esther Bernon Carpenter. Boston. 1924.
- Hoopar, Mrs. Susan Thayer. Fifty volumes of Italian literature. For North End Branch.
- Hovey, Dr. Alvah, Estate of, through Mrs. W. B. Parshley. Forty-three bound volumes and fifty unbound numbers of the *Bibliotheca Sacra*, 1844-1903.
- Huidekoper, Edgar, Meadville, Pa. Huidekoper. Holland family. 1730-1924. Compiled by Edgar Huidekoper. Jan. 1, 1924. (Chart.)
- Johnson, Henry Lewis. *Printing type specimens*. Standard modern type. By Henry Lewis Johnson. Boston. 1924. Two copies; *Historic design in printing*. With introduction by Henry Lewis Johnson. Boston. 1923. Inscribed copy.
- Jordan Marsh Company, through C. H. Critchett. Sixty-nine directories of New England cities and towns. For the Information Room.

- Lodge, Hon. Henry Cabot. Speeches and addresses of Warren G. Harding, President of the United States. Delivered during the course of his tour from Washington, D. C., to Alaska and return to San Francisco, June 20 to August 2, 1923. Compiled by James W. Murphy. (Washington. 1923.)
- McGill University Library, Montreal. Eighty-four publications of McGill University and "The romance of a princess, a comedy and other poems," by Amy Redpath Roddick.
- Mergenthaler Linotype Company. The manual of linotype typography. With comment by William Dana Orcutt. Brooklyn. 1923. Five copies.
- Mills, Mrs. Ina Lawson, Estate of, through Isaac B. Mills, executor. Twenty-one volumes of music, including opera scores of Faust, Martha, Traviata, etc.
- Monks, Mrs. Richard J. *Les légendes de Venise*. Par Maria Star. Illustrations de Raffaëla Mainella. Venise. 1909. Exempleire No. 301. Folio. Some borders and illustrations in color.
- Morgan, J. Pierpont, New York City. Babylonian records in the Library of J. Pierpont Morgan. Part 4. Edited by Albert T. Clay. New Haven. 1923.
- New York Public Library. Journalism. A bibliography. Compiled by Carl L. Cannon. New York. 1924.
- Nichols, E. M., Philadelphia. Nichols genealogy. Ancestry and descendants of Thomas Nichols of East Greenwich, Rhode Island and Danby, Vermont. Edited by Nathan Round Nichols. (Congress Park. 1923.)
- O'Brien, Dr. Frank P., New York City. A collection of 62 Beadle's Dime novels, including the rare Squaw Chief, by Mrs. Ann S. Stephens, and Maum Guinea, by Mrs. Metta V. Victor; photographs of Mr. E. F. Beadle, Wm. F. Cody, W. H. Manning and others, and a letter written by Mr. Beadle to his daughter.
- Old South Church in Boston. Book of the Fortieth Year. Issued in grateful and affectionate recognition of the fortieth anniversary of the installation of George A. Gordon, D.D., as minister of the Old South Church. Boston. 1924.
- Page, L. C., & Company. Nineteen volumes of their publications currently issued.
- Permanent Blind Relief War Fund, Paris. Two-hundred and twenty volumes, including 164 volumes of modern English and French authors in Contracted and Revised Braille.
- Perry, Thomas Sergeant. Six volumes, including The hymns, anthems and tunes, with the Ode used at the Magdalen Chapel. Set for the organ, harpsichord, voice, German-flute, or guitar. London. N. d.
- Radcliffe, Mrs. James A., New York. Captain Edward Richardson. A memorial. With genealogical records of some of his ancestors

- and descendants. By Elizabeth Wills Vernon Radcliffe. (Salem.) 1923. Privately printed.
- Reisner, George A., Clarence S. Fisher, and David Gordon Lyon. Harvard excavations at Samaria, 1908-1910. By George A. Reisner, Clarence S. Fisher, and David Gordon Lyon. Cambridge. Harvard University Press. 1924. (Harvard Semitic Series. 1, 2.)
- Sachs, Raphael, New York City. A collection of manuscript material, letters and documents relating to Boston and Massachusetts, 1734 to 1800. Among them a letter written in 1775 relating to the discontinuance of the light in Boston Harbor.
- Sanger, Mrs. George P. Alexandra (Empress). Letters to Nicholas II. Petrograd. 1922. 2 v. In Russian; six volumes of music.
- Sargent, Prof. Charles S., Brookline. A list of publications of the descendants of Epes Sargent. Compiled by Julia Mehitable Johnson. (1923.) Portraits of Epes and Ann Sargent, children of William Sargent and their descendants and connections, in the Judith Sargent House, Gloucester, Massachusetts. 1924.
- Seaver, Henry G., Westfield, N. J. The Seaver Genealogy, history and directory of the Seaver (Seavers, Sever, etc.) families of Europe and America. By Jesse Seaver. Philadelphia. 1924.
- Shaw, Mrs. Henry S., Milton, Mass. A collection of opera and concert programmes and theatre play bills dating from 1849 to 1923, two engravings and fourteen volumes including The works of Flavius Josephus, Frankfort, 1580; Ptolemy's Geography, Venice, Venice, 1598; the first edition of Bussato's Garden of Agriculture, Venice, 1592, and Dolce's translation of the Metamorphoses of Ovid, Venice, 1568. Among the 17th century books are Theatro del Mondo by Ortelius, Venice, 1689, with a description and map of America and Della Fisionomia dell 'Huomo by G. Battista Porta, Padua, 1623, illustrated with wood-cuts; and a Bible in German, printed at Dordrecht, bound in leather with emblems and figures in repoussé metal work.
- A second gift of eighty volumes included seventy-six volumes of the Bibliophile Society publications and a third gift comprised of dictionaries, encyclopaedias, and illustrated books of travel.
- Storer, Mrs. Bellamy, Paris. In memoriam. Bellamy Storer. With personal remembrances of President McKinley, President Roosevelt, and John Ireland, Archbishop of St. Paul. By Maria Longworth Storer. Boston. 1923. Privately printed.
- Strassburger, Ralph Beaver, Gwynedd Valley, Pa. The Strassburger family and allied families of Pennsylvania. Being the ancestry of Jacob Andrew Strassburger, Esquire, of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. By his son Ralph Beaver Strassburger. Printed for private circulation. Gwynedd Valley. 1922.
- West Roxbury Women's Club. Seven volumes for the West Roxbury

Branch, including Three generations. By Maud Elliott. Boston. 1923; A late harvest. Miscellaneous papers written between eighty and ninety. By Charles W. Eliot. Boston. (1924.); J. Ramsay MacDonald: the man of tomorrow. By Iconoclast. New York. 1924.

Williams, Charles C., M.D., Los Angeles. Ancestry and posterity of Nathaniel Williams of Taunton, Mass., son of Richard and Frances Dighton Williams of Taunton, Mass. By Charles C. Williams. Los Angeles. 1923.

Williams, Mrs. Francis H. Forty volumes, miscellaneous works, including The history of Woman Suffrage edited by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and others. Rochester. 1889-1922. 6 v.

NEWS EXTRACTS FROM BRANCH REPORTS.

ALLSTON BRANCH.

There has been an increase of interest in the Library since the publication in the local newspapers of information about new books and leading magazine articles. The poster exhibits have proved an attractive feature, especially the one on automobiles. Gain in circulation, 2,653.

ANDREW SQUARE BRANCH.

The public has been attracted by window displays on Japan, Alaska, Poland, gardening, cooking, etc., and by collections of books and pictures arranged in the reading room to supplement these displays. The local Polish newspaper has shown a friendly co-operation with the library in a series of articles, which have stimulated the interest of many new readers and increased the circulation of books, especially those on English for foreigners. Gain in circulation, 16,205.

BOYLSTON STATION BRANCH.

Window decoration has been found to be an excellent means of increasing the interest of the public in the library. The news is passed around, and spectators of all ages appear in numbers, like Roderick Dhu's men. The Christmas decorations were arranged before an inspiring audience, both inside and outside the library, including the "station gang," in their own doorway across the court. Patrons find it a long walk from Centre or Washington Streets, but they come often nevertheless. All ages, from seventy to five — all occupations from ministers of the Gospel to primary school babies — all nationalities, from the original Germans whose territory this district was, through Irish, Scotch, Polish, Lithuanian, Jewish and Italian. The library serves them all to the best of its power. Gain in circulation, 2,531.

BRIGHTON BRANCH.

A splendid spirit of co-operation exists between the staff, the public and the schools. There has been no change in the staff this year. Gain in circulation, 5,030.

CHARLESTOWN BRANCH.

The busy time in the library begins about seven o'clock in the evening. A man comes in for a Montreal paper, two little girls for "nobels" for their mother, a woman to meet a friend and manicure her nails, a boy for the High School Reading List, two young girls for the dictionary and a cross-word puzzle. Just as the Librarian has succeeded in supplying these wants, in rush ten more young things, demanding "Flour," "Wheat," "Muscle Food," "Benjamin Franklin," "Fireless Cookery," etc. And so it goes! Loss in circulation, 602.

CITY POINT BRANCH.

The library feels rich in the possession of the recently acquired and very much needed Encyclopedia Britannica. Other books of reference are very much in demand, as are also those on radio, accountancy, tool-making, etc. There is considerable call for such excellent non-fiction as Thomsen's "Outlines of Science," Drinkwater's "Outlines of Literature," Papini's "Life of Christ," Havelock Ellis' "Dance of Life," etc. The appreciation and support of its public is a constant source of stimulus and help to the staff of the library, and makes worth while their best effort. Gain in circulation, 4,164.

CODMAN SQUARE BRANCH.

The library has had this year several requests for advice on matters literary — among others, from a Harvard graduate selecting books for boys of twelve to fifteen years, and from the pastor of the Swedish Vasa Church, who teaches a class of immigrants. The books most in demand are those on travel, biography and music. The collection of books for Music Week had an especially good circulation. Gain in circulation, 1,421.

DORCHESTER BRANCH.

The Library serves a busy community. There are few foreigners, and all who come speak and read English. Some of the children take out books to use in teaching their parents English. Books on citizenship circulate well. The Library is handicapped by being on the second and third floors. Many people complain of the stairs. If it were on the ground floor, its usefulness would doubtless be much increased. Gain in circulation, 13,020.

EAST BOSTON BRANCH.

East Boston is rapidly changing in character. The American families are moving out, and the new comers are almost invariably of Italian origin. This change in the community necessitates a change in the Library's method of approach. Previously it was necessary to serve those who came, now it is also necessary to gain the interest of those who do not care much about books and who are not interested in libraries. In this district, the change from a reading to a non-reading public, the establishment of another branch and the location of the Library are handicaps to the growth of the work. The chief difficulty, however, is the insufficient staff. During rush hours, the assistants have not time to give the personal attention without which the best results are impossible. Gain in circulation, 2,803.

FANEUIL BRANCH.

From four o'clock, when schools are out, till Library closing hours, the staff is besieged with questions about high school reading, lives of authors, unfamiliar words, stories, poems, and material for debates. Gain in circulation, 3,439.

FELLOWES ATHENAEUM BRANCH.

By virtue of its fifty-two years and honorable record, Fellowes Athenaeum has attained the dignity and charm of tradition. Its older patrons speak wistfully of the days when this old building was considered the model library building of the State — of the days of Edward Everett Hale and Dr. Putnam, of the days when George Santayana lived up the street and Dr. De Normandie came in every day, when the Trustees dropped in to read and smoke in the old rooms with "TRUSTEES" painted on the door, and when the little sons of the Trustees might have a library key, and browse around a Sunday afternoon, long before anyone thought of having a public library open on Sunday. The old portraits in the big reading room meant more to those little boys than they do to the children who come now. They knew the story of Caleb Fellowes, the Gloucester boy who went to sea against the will of his parents, and was not heard from again for twenty-five years. But, in that time, he found his way to India, where he prospered in honorable trade, and after his return, settled in Roxbury, his mother's birthplace, and provided for the town the Fellowes Athenaeum.

Years ago — how many, only one person knows, and he is not telling — A youngster visited the Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library and broke a bust of George Washington. Now, when George cut down the cherry tree and his father questioned him, he told the truth and got his start on the road to immortal fame. But nobody in the library heard

the bust crash to the floor, hence nobody taxed the scared youngster, and long ago the incident was forgotten by all but the boy. The other day there arrived at the library a huge package. Surprised attendants removed layers and layers of tissue wrapping until, finally, there gazed up at them the serene countenance of the Father of His Country. With the gift came this explanatory note: "This bust of George, the Immortal, I am sending to take the place of one I broke in the library when I was a youngster." The bust, needless to say, has been accorded a place of honor, and the note is carefully preserved in a spirit of gratitude to the donor who concealed his name, but revealed a conscience. Gain in circulation, 4,334.

HYDE PARK BRANCH.

The loss of many privileges through becoming a branch of the Boston Public Library, the lack of increase in the population since the annexation of Hyde Park to Boston and the situation of this library in an inconspicuous side street, have doubtless been factors in the slow growth of circulation. Gain in circulation, 5,618.

JAMAICA PLAIN BRANCH.

One of our patrons, an ex-soldier who has been gassed and is blind, comes to the library with a friend who reads to him. They need a quiet place, and have been given the use of the office, a privilege which they appreciate greatly. Gain in circulation, 4,608.

JEFFRIES POINT BRANCH.

During the year posters and book covers, calling attention to both juvenile and adult literature, have been displayed in the windows and in the library. Undoubtedly, this has been largely responsible for the increase in circulation. A special effort has been made to change the exhibit every two or three weeks. Quite frequently, people stop to look at the display and then come in to apply for a card. The library could be of more service to the adults if their room were better situated. As it is, those wishing to use the adult room must pass through the children's room, which from three-thirty to five-thirty is overflowing with eager, restless children. Many adults would like to use the library during these hours, but do not come because of this difficulty. Gain in circulation, 11,163.

DORCHESTER LOWER MILLS BRANCH.

The women using the library evidently look forward to their visits, for a bit of gossip and news. Some who are not strong enough to get about much regard their weekly trip to the library for books in the light of an adventure, and one woman, housed with an aged mother to care for, gets

much cheer from her visit. For various reasons, the library means more than just books to many of the community. Gain in circulation, 1,458.

MATTAPAN BRANCH.

Mattapan is fortunate in having among its patrons many who read for the love of reading and for the joy of cultivating the mind. They are discriminating and decided in their tastes and determined to have what they want. The keynote of the past year has been the pleasant personal relations established between the staff and the public. Young and old seek the librarian's advice about their reading and criticize the books when read, feeling sure of the interest and sympathy of the staff. Gain in circulation, 21,090.

MOUNT BOWDOIN BRANCH.

As regards light, warmth, and cheerfulness, Mount Bowdoin is the acme of perfection. But it lacks space, in fact, a building twice the size is needed. The 1923-24 increase in the adult circulation has been maintained, and even advanced, but the gain is not what it should be, owing to the cramped quarters. From three-thirty to eight o'clock, most of the room and practically all the time and attention of the librarian and her assistants are engaged by the constant flow of children from the neighboring schools. The grown people read for recreation, and do not care to come to a place where the crowd, at busy hours is so great that passageway around the tables and access to the shelves is difficult. Gain in circulation, 8,718.

MOUNT PLEASANT BRANCH.

During the summer months, when out of door life calls the patrons, and the library is often forgotten, posters are displayed on the bulletin board, with such captions as "So you are going to Europe. If not in reality, why not by books? Read . . ." "Are you interested in cooking? Read . . ." etc. Many people use the shower baths which are in the same building as the library. Their attention is attracted by typewritten sheets, bearing the legend: "After the shower, why not a book? The Library is just around the corner!" Gain in circulation, 976.

NEPONSET BRANCH.

The public served at Neponset is strictly American. Almost all are home owners, and the stable character of the neighborhood makes it possible for the librarians to become intimately acquainted with the patrons, their tastes and needs. This intimacy is particularly noticeable among the children, who frequently write only their first name and address on the home slips, when borrowing books. A slip may read "John, Minot Street," and the librarian always knows who "John" is. It is customary

for a member of the staff, when she has occasion to pass the house of a patron, to deliver a book which has been asked for. This is known in the library as the "Rural Free Delivery System." Gain in circulation, 1,113.

NORTH END BRANCH.

To stand at the gateway of the nation, offering to those who enter the gift of friendship, is indeed a high privilege. The welcome offered by the branch library is not a temporary, individual one, but a welcome from the great of all ages. The people of this district have curiosity, ambition and faith. They crowd the reading rooms and use the books freely. Gain in circulation, 9,746.

ORIENT HEIGHTS BRANCH.

The display window is an excellent means of letting the public know what books may be found in the library, and also of acquainting the staff with the books that are most in demand. Books on engineering or auto-mobiling will not remain in the window more than half an hour, whereas a fascinating display of travel may be untouched for weeks. Possibly Orient Heights is exceptional in this respect, but there are not more than five patrons who choose non-fiction, except when it can be of use to them in their work. Gain in circulation, 10,025.

PARKER HILL BRANCH.

Until recently our work with foreigners has been practically nil, but within the past six months Lithuanians, Poles and Swedes have taken up their residence in the neighborhood, and the juvenile members of these families have made immediate application for cards. In this district the relation of the library to the schools is important. Primary and grammar material is supplied to the Farragut, Thomas Dwight, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Charles Bulfinch, Comins and Martin Schools; high school material to the students of the High School of Commerce, the Girls' Latin and Boys' Latin, and college material to the pupils of Teachers' College. The co-operation with and appreciation of the library by the teachers of these schools is remarkable and is very stimulating to the best efforts of the librarian. Loss in circulation, 7,043.

ROSLINDALE BRANCH.

In spite of the fact that there are several circulating libraries in the immediate vicinity, the branch still holds its own. A children's room, established last year, is now fully developed. A new entrance for their use relieves some of the turmoil formerly occasioned by the entrance of the undisciplined youth in the adult room. This, of course, has helped in maintaining order, which has much improved. Gain in circulation, 5,552.

ROXBURY CROSSING BRANCH.

The character of the district is changing. Jewish patrons are moving out and colored people taking their place. In the early fall a band of Gypsies, comprising about thirty families, settled in our midst. Many of the children came to the library, and a very picturesque sight were the girls, in their striking costumes — long, full, bright-colored skirts, white bodice and gay scarves over head and shoulders. Many wore ear-rings and bracelets of silver and gold. Gain in circulation, 9,274.

SOUTH BOSTON BRANCH.

For fourteen years, the need of a new library building for South Boston has been stressed by librarians and Examining Committees. The circulation has grown steadily, but the library facilities have not kept pace. During the last two years only twenty-six per cent of the total number of books issued has gone to adults. During the hours when working people might use the library, the whole place is overrun with children, because the children's facilities are totally inadequate. The cramped quarters, moreover, make it impossible to allow the children the opportunity of browsing among the books and finding things for themselves, which is so important a factor in creating the real love of reading and the desire to spend leisure hours in the library. During the past year 98,318 volumes have been issued to children. If the adults are to be given a fair chance, and the children are to be continued in good reading habits, it is imperative that the library should have separate rooms for the convenience and pleasure of both. Gain in circulation, 13,626.

SOUTH END BRANCH.

In this district the reading room is constantly used by the older people, and its capacity is often taxed to the utmost. The patrons are lovers of good literature, and books on biography, science, industrial arts, history and religion are much in demand. Very little fiction is required in the reading room, aside from that found in the magazines and periodicals. Gain in circulation, 6,163.

TYLER STREET BRANCH.

The following interesting comments by three prominent residents of the neighborhood are quoted in full:

Miss Bertha Hazard of Hemenway House: "My eighteen years residence in this neighborhood and the five years of teaching in the Quincy Evening School have given me a wide knowledge of this section of Boston. No other part of the city has changed so much in such a short time. It was formerly a residential neighborhood, of Irish families, with St. James

Church as their center. Their place has been taken by the Syrians, Greeks, Italians and Chinese, or the business houses. St. James parish now consists mainly of transients. The widening of Kneeland Street into Stuart Street has converted the adjoining section into a business center."

Mr. Wadir Shakir, editor of the Syrian Press: "The removal of many Syrians to the Shawmut Avenue and Roxbury districts has had a detrimental effect upon the library. The officers of the leading Syrian organizations are not residents of this section. This fact shows that the neighborhood is no longer the old home town of its more prosperous Syrian citizens."

The late Mr. Robert A. Woods, Director of South End House: "The removal of Syrians and Armenians to the Shawmut Avenue section during the last few years has been very noticeable. Naturally this change in the population has affected the library. I should judge that the Syrians as a race are not great readers. The increase of the Chinese colony would not increase the circulation. Since the Jewish people are such an asset for library circulation, I should think that efforts could be made to encourage the colony beyond the railroad bridge to use your branch. The natural increase of business houses crowds out the better type of families for the more transient types."

Loss in circulation, 4,949.

UPHAM'S CORNER BRANCH.

A library located in a municipal building may well play its part in the development of the district. This branch has been given supervision of the large bulletin board in the main corridor with the stipulation that all official activities of the district be displayed on it as well as those relating to the library. There have been posted, in addition to notices of local municipal affairs, material relating to the schools, current events and, among library notices, numerous book lists. From the beginning the lists have appeared so desirable that their early disappearance could be counted upon. At Upham's Corner one does not find a particular type of borrower. There is a general reading public having a strong inclination for fiction with the usual and frequent exceptions on the part of the student, study and literary groups. Loss in circulation, 13,756.

WARREN STREET BRANCH.

A teacher of Hebrew recently applied for a Special Card. Against the question — "Reason for granting this request?" — he wrote: "Study is my life ideal." In a broad sense, this remark typifies the spirit of the borrower at Warren Street. During the past year this has been especially noticed in the groups of people who have come here from Russia or Poland, including, as usual, a large number who have been enrolled in the principal universities of their respective countries. The new arrivals are anxious to

acquire English as a step toward becoming citizens, and often the beginning of this course is at the registration desk of the branch. Here there may be found one or more members of the staff, well-equipped to handle the difficulties of language. Gain in circulation, 14,822.

WEST END BRANCH.

It is nice to be able to say "thank you" to those in command for the many favors shown to the West End Branch this year, such as an adequate lighting system, the installation of a telephone, repairs to the roof, etc., but this stately and historic building, formerly Dr. Bartol's Old West Church, is constantly in need of cleaning, repairing and painting, if it is to be kept from deterioration, and is to be preserved in a manner befitting its beauty and historic interest. Would it perhaps be possible to raise an endowment fund for the proper upkeep of the building, among those who belonged, or whose ancestors belonged, to Dr. Bartol's Church, and who would doubtless be interested for the sake of old time memories? Gain in circulation, 3,054.

WEST ROXBURY BRANCH.

The Girl Scouts applied to the library for work. A great deal was found for them to do. Since last April they have cut out of the *Geographic Magazines* for picture collections, 3,162 pictures on 118 subjects. They also fetch and carry books for patrons who are unable to come to the library. The little girls also want to work, and five or six of them, about nine years old, have made twenty scrap-books, which will be sent to the North End Branch, as a Christmas present to the North End children. In March, 1924, a series of book-reviews was started in connection with the Women's Club which meets in the library each month. The lists of books printed at Central are very useful to the meetings of the Book Review and of the Book Clubs. There are twenty of these Book Clubs, with about eighteen members in each. Gain in circulation, 7,050.

OFFICIALS OF THE LIBRARY.

Director,	Charles F. D. Belden.
Assistant to Director,	Robert A. Howes.
Reference Librarian,	Frank H. Chase.
Executive Secretary,	Della Jean Deery.
Auditor,	Adelaide A. Nichols.

Bates Hall Centre Desk, Patent and Newspaper Department: Pierce E. Buckley, Chief.

Patent Division, William J. Ennis, Assistant in Charge.

Newspaper Division, Frederic Serex, Assistant in Charge.

Bindery Department: James W. Kenney, Chief.

Branch Department: Edith Guerrier, Supervisor of Branches.

Central Branch Issue Division, Alice V. Stevens, Assistant in Charge.

Branch Binding Division, Marian A. McCarthy, Assistant in Charge.

Shipping Division, Robert F. Dixon, Assistant in Charge.

* For Branch Librarians, see below.

Catalogue Department: Samuel A. Chevalier, Chief.

Card Division, T. Francis Brennan, Assistant in Charge.

Shelf Division, Michael McCarthy, Chief Classifier, in Charge.

Children's Department: Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.

Children's Librarian, Central Library, Mary C. Toy.

Engineer and Janitor Department: William F. Quinn, Supt. of Buildings.

Information Office: John H. Reardon, Assistant in Charge.

Issue Department: Frank C. Blaisdell, Chief.

Ordering Department: Theodosia E. Macurdy, Chief.

Periodical Room: Francis J. Hannigan, Assistant in Charge.

Printing Department: Francis Watts Lee, Chief.

Registration Department: A. Frances Rogers, Chief.

Special Libraries Department: Winthrop H. Chenery, Chief.

Technology Division, George S. Maynard, Assistant in Charge.

Music Division, Richard G. Appel, Assistant in Charge.

Barton-Ticknor Division, Zoltán Haraszti, Assistant in Charge.

Statistical Department: Horace L. Wheeler, Chief.

Stock Room: Timothy J. Mackin, Custodian.

*Branch Librarians:

Allston, Katherine F. Muldoon.

Andrew Square, Elizabeth H. McShane.

Boylston Station, Edith R. Nickerson.

Brighton, Marian W. Brackett.

Charlestown, Katherine S. Rogan.

City Point, Alice L. Murphy.

Codman Square, Elizabeth P. Ross.

Dorchester, Edith F. Pendleton.

East Boston, Laura M. Cross.

Faneuil, Gertrude L. Connell.

Fellowes Athenaeum, Mary E. Ames.

Hyde Park, Grace L. Murray.

Jamaica Plain, Katie F. Albert.

Jeffries Point, Margaret A. Calnan.

Lower Mills, Isabel E. Wetherald (acting).

Mattapan, Lois Clark (acting).

Mount Bowdoin, Theodora B. Scoff.

Mount Pleasant, Margaret H. Reid.

Neponset, Ellen C. McShane.

North End, Mary F. Curley (acting).
 Orient Heights, Catharine F. Flannery.
 Parker Hill, Mary M. Sullivan.
 Roslindale, Annie M. Donovan.
 Roxbury Crossing, Katrina M. Sather.
 South Boston, M. Florence Cufflin.
 South End, Margaret A. Sheridan.
 Upham's Corner, Beatrice C. Maguire.
 Tyler Street, Marion C. Kingman.
 Warren Street, Beatrice M. Flanagan.
 West Roxbury, Carrie L. Morse.
 West End, Fanny Goldstein.

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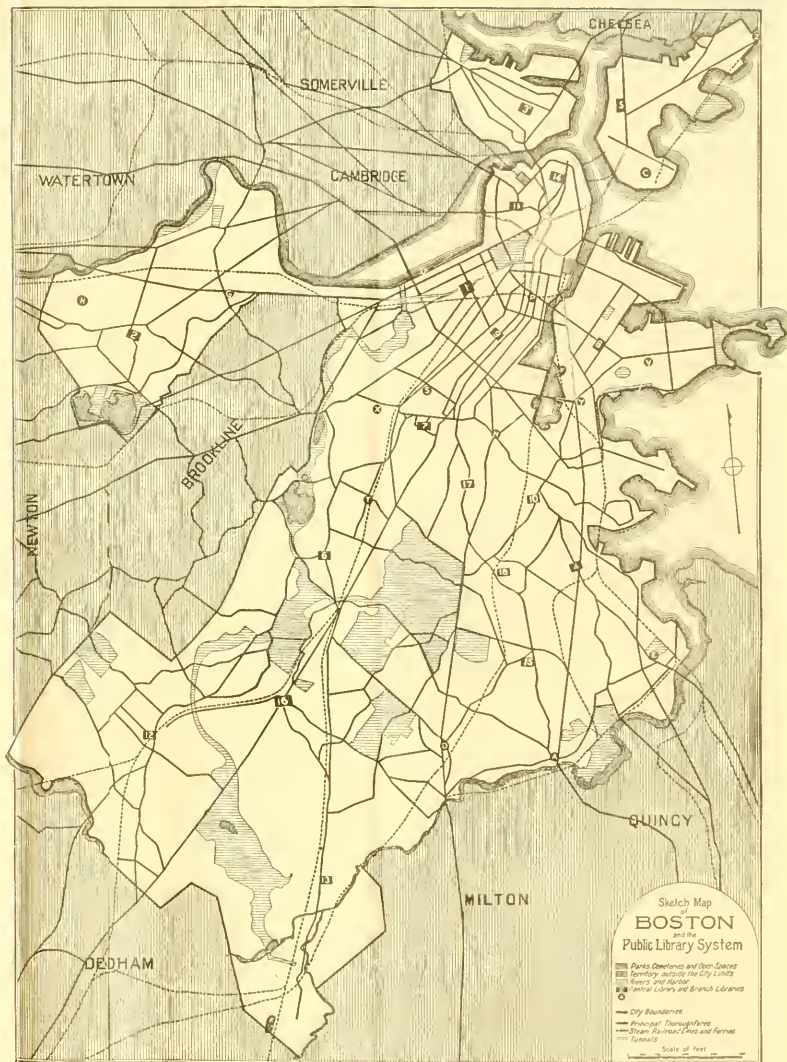
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South End Branch, Shawmut Ave. and West Brookline St.	9	
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CHARLESTOWN.		
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DORCHESTER.		
Dorchester Branch, Arcadia, cor. Adams St.	4	
Codman Square Branch, Washington, cor. Norfolk St.	15	
Upham's Corner Branch, Columbia Road, cor. Bird St.	10	
Lower Mills Branch, Washington, cor. Richmond St.	A	
Mattapan Branch, 7 Babson St.	D	
Mount Bowdoin Branch, Washington, cor. Eldon St.	18	
Neponset Branch, 362 Neponset Ave.	E	
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Orient Heights Branch, 1030 Bennington St.	Z	
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Boylston Station Branch, Depot Square	T	
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Fellows Athenaeum Branch, 46 Milmont St.	7	
Warren Street Branch, 392 Warren St.	17	
Mount Pleasant Branch, Dudley, cor. Vine St.	N	
Parker Hill Branch, 1518 Tremont St.	X	
Roxbury Crossing Branch, 208 Ruggles St.	S	
SOUTH BOSTON.		
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Andrew Square Branch, 396 Dorchester St.	Y	
City Point Branch, Broadway, near H St.	V	
WEST ROXBURY.		
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Area of City (Land only) 45.60 Square miles.

Population (Census of 1920), 748,060.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



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